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BELIEB ME, OCIFFER

This police booking mug shot shows pop star Justin Bieber on Thursday. Bieber was arrested for allegedly drag racing on a Miami Beach street. Police say Bieber has been charged with resisting arrest without violence in addition to drag racing and DUI. Story, page 14. MIAMI DADE COUNTY JAIL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

No pub pints to be raised during gold medal game

Booze ban. Province prepared to vary rules for gold medal hockey, but won't allow liquor service during game

ROBSON FLETCHER
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Alberta bars will be given special permission one Sunday next month to serve up strong coffee — but not frothy suds — at the crack of dawn, when the puck drops at the Olympic men's hockey final in Sochi, Russia.

The question is: Will they?

It'll be 5 a.m. in Calgary when the Feb. 23 gold-medal game gets underway, and the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC) plans to make an exception to regular bar hours for that one day.

Licensed establishments can apply to open as early as 4:30 a.m., according to AGLC spokesperson Tatjana Laskovic, and could start serving alcohol as early as 8 a.m.

But that means, barring an extended overtime, the game will be over by the time the booze starts to flow.

Mike Joseph, president of the Ceili's Group of Irish pubs, said he's not sure bar owners would open for business that early if they can't sell alcohol during the game.

"It really does become cost prohibitive," he said. "Would it be appealing for us? I don't know. It would be more appealing if we could sell beer."

From a fan perspective, Jefri Hiebert expects there will be no shortage of demand for places to watch the game with friends and strangers alike, if Team Canada makes the final.

"With something as monumental as the gold medal game, everyone remembers where they were and who they were with for the 2010 experience," he said. "It's a national affair."

LaToya Wilson, another major hockey fan, said she'd have no interest in drinking at 5 a.m. but would enjoy the atmosphere of a bar for the gold-medal game.

"The appeal is that high-strung energy," she said. "You can feel it from every person. Then when a goal is scored, it's like an eruption."

If Canada does make the final, Hiebert said one thing is for sure: "Me and my friends will be out wherever the breakfast is hot, drinks at 8 are cold and the screens are big."

WITH FILES FROM RYAN TUMILTY/METRO IN EDMONTON

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Why the CTrain delay?

Transit officials have pinpointed what spurred Crowfoot Station to close last week.

Reporters were told Thursday a carbon strip failed atop the springy trolley arm that connects CTrain cars to the overhead electrical wire. Engineers believe the wire rubbed against the bare metal arm, causing an electrical zap.

It resulted in a mess of mechanical parts and wire.

Infrastructure manager Craig Harper likened the high-friction, chain-reaction breakdown to a car's brake pad giving out — only these repairs were far more complicated and costly. All told, the damage tally rang in about $170,000 and the far-flung northwest was closed for parts of five days. It impacted daily travel for about 15,000 commuters heading between Crowfoot and Dalhousie every weekday, as per Calgary Transit figures. Still, Harper suggested nobody could've seen it coming. "We haven't seen this type of breakage before," he said.

Transit officials are investigating whether they purchased a faulty batch of the carbon connectors last November. In the meantime, seven other CTrain cars have been taken off the rails for inspection.

BRYAN WEISMILLER/METRO

A light rail CTrain pulls into the Franklin Station in Calgary as the sun sets. BRYAN WEISMILLER/METRO

Animal abuse. New fund could help create national registry

Organizers of a reward for information related to the horrific killings of two animals found in a Calgary alley with tape over their mouths hope to use a portion of the funds raised to help establish a national registry of animal abusers.

As of Thursday's press time, nearly $69,000 had been raised through crowd-funding by local group Vets To Go, which is also kicking in $5,000 of its own. Their effort was prompted in response to the discovery of both a husky and kitten found dead in the 200 block of 99 Avenue SE. At least the husky appears to have been intentionally starved to death and both animals suffered physical harm, according to humane society investigators.

Vets To Go announced Thursday it planned to cap the reward at $20,000 and use the remainder to better train Crown prosecutors working cases of animal abuse as well as to potentially establish a registry that would identify convicted animal abusers, much like one for registered sex offenders that already exists in Canada.

Company president Greg Habstritt said his group had taken to heart concerns from the Calgary Humane Society that the continuously increasing reward could lead to falsified claims or someone with actual information to hold off coming forward in hopes of reaping more reward money later on.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Charities upset by case of cancer fraud

'Extremely disheartening.' Officials suggest donors turn to a registered group

Allegations of cancer fraud are despicable but rare in Calgary, according to members of the non-profit sector.

On Thursday, Canadian Cancer Society spokeswoman Tiffany Kraus said her organization was first tipped off last summer about a woman accused of faking terminal illness and collecting nearly $20,000 in donations.

So with that in mind, Kraus wasn't surprised to hear police announce charges in the case this week — but she called it "extremely disheartening."

"When someone claims to have cancer, it's a lie most people don't tell," she told Metro.

Lana Rovang, 32, was charged with two counts of fraud over $5,000, one count of fraud under $5,000 and uttering a forged document.

Lynn Van Hyfte of the Alberta Cancer Foundation suggested the high-profile accusations put a dark cloud over donating in general. "It confuses people as to what the best thing to do is," she said.

While both officials agreed charitable scams aren't common here, they suggested donors turn to a registered group because of stringent federal oversight.

Non-profit researcher Peter Elson didn't rule out giving money to needy family members, trusted friends and longtime colleagues. However, he also pointed out those individuals aren't able to provide taxable receipts and advised people to be cautious.

"It's only appropriate for anyone making a donation to do the due diligence," said Elson of Mount Royal University. BRYAN WEISMILLER/METRO

Lana Rovang, highlighted, has been charged with fraud after claiming she was terminally ill and collecting $20,000 in donations. FACEBOOK

Police eyeing dangers of overmedicated driving

Calgary high-ways.
Expert worries aging population and prevalent use of antidepressants leading to unsafe drivers

BRYAN WEISMILLER
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One of Calgary's drug recognition experts is warning of an uptick in the number of overmedicated drivers getting behind the wheel. METRO FILE

It may be just what the doctor ordered — but Calgary cops fear too many people are driving high on prescription drugs.

At a conference last year, Cst. Andrew Fairman was told American authorities believe overmedication will soon surpass marijuana as the No. 2 cause of impaired driving.

"If that's the case down there, I would suspect that — if it isn't that way now — that it's going that direction in Canada as well," Fairman said.

As one of Calgary's few drug recognition experts, he cited two main reasons behind the rise: an aging population and the prevalent use of "can't-cope-with-life" drugs such as Prozac. Narcotic use was deemed an issue, too.

In one example, Fairman recalled an OxyContin user who turned to street dealers when his doctor-approved supply wasn't easing his pain. The man eventually started chewing through the time-release capsules for an instant buzz.

"Instead of going back to the doctor and saying it wasn't working the way it used to, he started to self-medicate by taking more than he's supposed to."

While many reports have been done on drunk driving, it's widely accepted that less research has focused on drug-impaired driving.

The percentage of drug-positive drivers increased progressively from 29.7 per cent in 2000 to 36.7 per cent in 2008, according to the latest reviews of coroners' reports done by the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse.

It's unclear exactly how uppers or downers — or drug cocktails of both — affect the reflexes required for safe driving, family physician Dr. Jim Dickinson told Metro.

"We just don't know," said Dickinson, a professor at the University of Calgary.

Police Chief Rick Hanson has called for the federal government to approve roadside-testing devices and per se limits for drivers.

More research needed

"There are no good guidelines to say (at) what dose of which drug we should start warning people to stop driving."
Dr. Jim Dickinson

Centre for Conservation

Greater sage grouse gets backed

The federal and Alberta governments have come to the rescue of the critically endangered greater sage grouse, committing $2.1 million each for a captive breeding and rearing project over the next decade. It will be run by the Calgary Zoo's Centre for Conservation. There were an estimated 93 to 138 adult birds in Canada in 2012. The population has declined by 98 per cent since 1988.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Less costly than thought

Make veterans' parking credit permanent: City

Limited free parking for veterans has come at a much smaller cost than anticipated, and city staff are now recommending council make the discounts permanent.

A total 156 veterans signed up for the one-year trial, which cost $18,000.

Estimates peg the annual cost at between $65,000 and $185,000, depending on uptake. The program saw the Calgary Parking Authority offer a $10 monthly credit to those with valid veterans' plates.

Coun. Shane Keating, who had raised the idea, said some veterans still weren't aware of the program. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

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From left, hockey player Jamie Emery, researchers Dr. Carolyn Emery and Dr. Brent Hagel, Hockey Canada executive director Kevin Kobelka and former youth hockey player Ash Kolstad at the University of Calgary's Olympic Oval on Thursday. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

Researchers tackle kids' sports injuries

Injury rate. 35 per cent of Albertan kids require medical attention related to sports and recreation each year

ROBSON FLETCHER
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Ash Kolstad was just 12 years old when a hit from behind ended his hockey career.

In the first shift of a peewee game — a level at which bodychecking has since been banned — Kolstad took a nasty elbow to the neck, hit his head on the boards and then the ice, suffering his second hockey-related concussion in the span of a week.

"The head pain, I still suffer from," Kolstad, now 17, said Thursday. "It's been four years."

Kolstad is now working with leading researchers at the University of Calgary to reduce the likelihood of similar injuries occurring to youngsters today, and into the future, as part of the Alberta Program in Youth Sport and Recreational Injury Prevention.

With $2.5 million in new funding, the program is led by Dr. Carolyn Emery, whose earlier research led to the national ban on bodychecking in peewee (11- and 12-year-old) hockey in May 2013, and Dr. Brent Hagel, whose research has contributed to a major increase in helmet use among skiers and snowboarders.

Their goal is a 20 per cent reduction in youth injuries related to sports and recreation by 2020, while also encouraging physical activity.

"We have a huge problem in this country with obesity," Emery said. "Our goal is to have kids be active in sports and recreation, and be safe."

Program

The program's $2.5 million in funding over five years comes from the Alberta Innovates Health Solutions Collaborative Research and Innovation Opportunities grant.

Carbon monoxide

One dead, three hurt in CO incident

One person is dead and three others, including two kids, have been taken to hospital after a carbon monoxide incident. Insp. Derek Curtis said officers were called to a home in the 0-100 block of Country Village Manor NE for reports of carbon monoxide.

"It would appear one individual has taken their own life," he said, adding it was unclear if they also intended to harm the others in the home. Later, police confirmed the victim was a 26-year-old male.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Inquiry. Police cleared of shooting man in face during hit-and-run

Calgary police were justified when they shot a man who attempted to flee in a car and injured two seniors in the process, according to the findings of an independent review.

The Alberta Serious Incident Response Team (ASIRT) led the inquiry into the May 14 incidents that occurred in the 100 block of Crowfoot Way NW.

Police officers responding to reports of a suspicious vehicle in the area attempted to approach a driver who then "sped off," injuring two people, who were in their 70s, in the process.

The driver was shot in the face but survived.

Jason Trevor Harron, 37, was later charged in connection with the incident, with two counts each of hit-and-run causing bodily harm, criminal negligence causing bodily harm, flight from police causing bodily harm and dangerous driving causing bodily harm.

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Calgary man recalls Russian hostage crisis

The Saratov Approach.

Kidnapped friends penned goodbye letter during five-day ordeal

JEREMY NOLAIS
jeremy.nolais@metronews.ca

Derek Wride still remembers the words written on the ransom letter addressed to him.

"Wride, tell our families that we love them. We are ready to die. You have my CDs. Wride, you kick it for me. Best friends forever."

That message from friends and fellow missionaries Travis Tuttle of Gilbert, Ariz., and Andrew Lee Propst of Lebanon, Ore., came four days after they'd been taken hostage in the Russian city of Saratov in 1998.

Their captor had posed as someone interested in the church on a Sunday and invited Tuttle and Propst to his home Wednesday. The missionaries were beaten with batons and taken to an undisclosed location at gunpoint.

Derek Wride is seen working as a missionary in Russia in the late 1990s. CONTRIBUTED

On the following Saturday, Wride, a Calgary resident, received the letter.

"Until that moment, I had been hopeful that they would be released," he recalled to Metro Thursday. "I was only 20 years old. I thought that nothing terrible could really happen. I'd never been through anything like this."

The hostage situation garnered international attention — even then-U.S. President Bill Clinton made statements declaring an unwillingness to negotiate — and has now been made into a feature film due to premiere in Calgary.

Wride says he believes the hostage takers got cold feet — his friends were dropped off in a snowbank one day after they'd written their letter of surrender.

The film detailing the five-day ordeal, officially titled The Saratov Approach, premiered in October 2013 and has already made the film-circuit rounds in the U.S. An online campaign spurred by Wride and his wife Rachelle has led to it being screened in Calgary at Canyon Meadows Cinemas, located at 13226 Macleod Trail SE.

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Feeling 'more Calgarian.' Flames TV launches web broadcasts in Punjabi

The Calgary Flames have launched a series of online broadcasts in Punjabi, becoming the first Canadian NHL team to offer regular coverage in a language other than English or French.

The weekly videos will be posted to the Flames' website and will be hosted by Harnarayan Singh, who does play-by-play in Punjabi for CBC's Hockey Night in Canada.

The Flames TV videos will take a behind-the-scenes look at the team and follow player storylines.

"What this does for the Punjabi community in Calgary is it helps them connect to the Calgary Flames," Singh said Thursday. "It helps them become part of the greater Calgary family. It helps them feel more Calgarian."

"We've looked at this for a year and we're very excited about the growth potential," said Jim Bagshaw, Flames vice-president of advertising, sponsorship and marketing.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

Harnarayan Singh talks Thursday about the new series of videos he'll be hosting for Flames TV in Punjabi. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

USING SHOCK TACTICS? MEET MY MOCK TACTICS

IN DEFENCE OF
Mike Morrison
calgary@metronews.ca

Last week, while walking through Kensington, I noticed a small group of protesters who — judging by their use of gruesome photos of slaughtered animals and stuffed dogs in traps — were protesting the use of animal fur in clothing.

I walked over, curious to find out which business they were protesting. They said it was a small independent store called Brooklyn Clothing Co., which sells fur-lined Canada Goose jackets.

The jacket is also sold in much bigger retailers such as Holt Renfrew and has sponsorships with everyone from the Fairmont to ET Canada. But, as I would see in a newscast later, they went after a small store because they thought it would have more impact.

What bothered me, beyond their suspect claims, was that they were blocking the entrance to four other small businesses, which depend on busy Saturday street traffic.

I asked this group if they were concerned about the negative effect they were having, at which point they shoved blown-up photos of mutilated animals in my face and asked if I cared about animal cruelty.

I did what I rarely do — I lost my temper. I told them they were being "selfish idiots" and walked away, swearing the whole time. People stopped and stared. It wasn't my finest moment.

For me, it brought to mind the long-gestating issue of effective protesting, particularly the type of people who occasionally take over our sidewalks, pedways and roads with gruesome photos and their extreme version of "the facts."

Use your words

If they have to resort to shock tactics for people to take notice, perhaps it's because their arguments lack substance. Maybe they lack the skill to communicate any other way?

It makes me question if they really care about the issue they're protesting about. It feels desperate and actually makes me less inclined to listen to their argument. I mean, if they have to resort to shock tactics for people to take notice, perhaps it's because their arguments lack substance. Maybe they lack the skill to communicate any other way?

If you're really upset with a product like Canada Goose, why go after a small store like Brooklyn, which sells relatively few coats? And how do they justify the harm to nearby businesses? Maybe their protests are actually just an attempt to indulge the protesters' desire to be the centre of attention, rather than actually make a meaningful improvement to our society.

There are lots of productive ways to both protest and actually make Calgary a better place. Assaulting our eyes just makes people avoid you and tune out your message.

See what I did there? I informed you of how you can actually influence people without being gross or destructive. These protesters should try it sometime.

MIKE MORRISON WRITES MIKE'S BLOGGITY BLOG AND TWEETS FROM @MIKESBLOGGITY.

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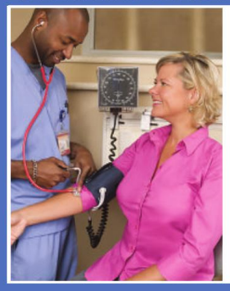

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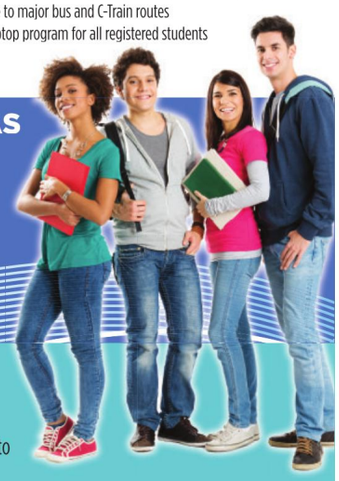

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Opposition leader and former WBC heavyweight boxing champion Vitali Klitschko, centre, addresses protesters near burning barricades between police and protesters in central Kyiv, Ukraine, Thursday. SERGEI CHUZAVKOV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ukraine opposition urges ceasefire

Uneasy truce.
Many protesters still appear resistant

A top opposition leader on Thursday urged protesters to maintain a shaky ceasefire with police after at least two demonstrators were killed in clashes this week, but some in the crowd appeared defiant, jeering and chanting "revolution" and "shame."

Emerging from hours-long talks with President Viktor Yanukovych, opposition leader Oleh Tyahnybok asked demonstrators in Kyiv for several more days of a truce, saying the president has agreed to ensure the release of dozens of detained protesters and stop further detentions.

But other opposition leaders offered mixed reports on the outcome of the meeting, with opposition leader Vitali Klitschko saying negotiations had brought little result.

He and Tyahnybok were booed at the barricades by angry demonstrators and the atmosphere appeared tense.

Interior Minister Vitaliy Zakharchenko issued a statement guaranteeing that police would not take action against the large protest camp on Independence Square, known as the Maidan. He also called on the police to exercise calm and not react to provocations.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Fatal blaze ravages seniors' home

L'Isle-Verte. Many residents were over 85, and all but a handful were confined to wheelchairs and walkers

Just six months after Canadians were rocked by the Lac-Mégantic tragedy, another Quebec town found itself waiting to learn how many people it had lost after fire ripped through a seniors' residence just after midnight Thursday. The unsuspecting community this time was L'Isle-Verte, a town of only 1,500 people in Quebec's scenic Lower St. Lawrence.

Provincial police have confirmed that five people are dead and another 30 are missing.

Parts of the Résidence du Havre, which opened in 1997, had sprinklers, while others didn't. The local fire chief said sprinklers did go off, triggering the fire alarm and allowing firefighters to gain access to about one-third of the building.

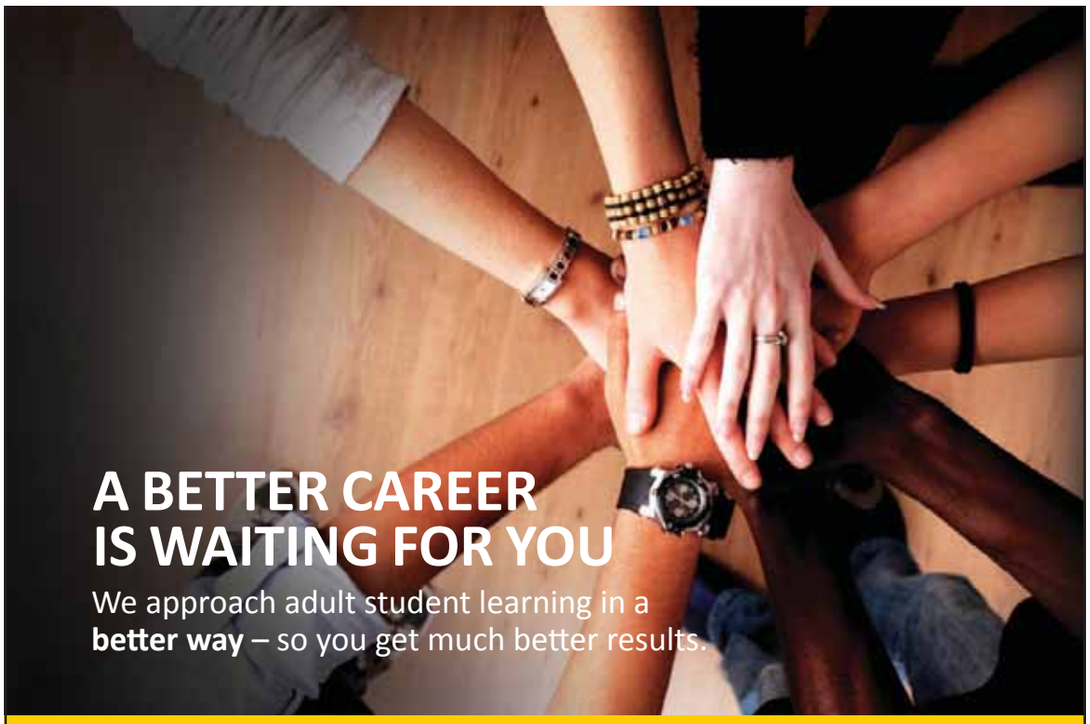
Thursday's blaze erupted in the old part of the three-storey building, which a Quebec Health Department document from last July states was constructed of wood.

Many of the residents were over 85 and all but a handful had limited movement, being confined to wheelchairs and walkers.

At least three people were injured, although the extent of their injuries was unclear.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Investigators and firefighters examine the rubble where fire destroyed a seniors' residence in L'Isle-Verte, Que., Thursday. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS



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India. Woman says village council ordered gang rape

A 20-year-old Indian woman said she was gang-raped on the orders of a village council because she fell in love with a man from a different ethnic group, police said Thursday.

Twelve suspects and the head of the council have been arrested for the Monday night attack, police said. The woman told police that she lost count of how many men raped her. She was hospitalized Thursday in serious condition.

Television footage showed the woman, her face covered by scarves, being led into a hospital with an IV tube in her arm.

TV news reports said the woman is a member of an ethnic tribal group and the man is a Muslim from a neighbouring village. The man visited the woman's village, Subalpur, on Monday to propose marriage, but was caught by other villagers, and the man and woman were tied to a tree while the village council decided their fate, the reports said.

Police official C. Sudhakar said the village council ordered the man and woman to each pay a fine of 25,000 rupees ($400). The man's family was able to pay, but when the woman's family said they were too poor, the council ordered the gang rape, police said.

Men arrested in a gang rape are produced at a court in Bolpur, India Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Councils of village elders are not legally binding in India, but they are seen as the will of the local community. The councils decide on social norms in the village, and in some cases they dictate the way women can dress or who they can marry. Those who flout the councils risk being ostracized. Annie Raja, general secretary of the National Federation of Indian Women, said that such local councils destroy women's rights.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mark Adler

MP says comment at Western Wall was 'a joke'

Toronto-area MP Mark Adler says he was just joking when he made a crass comment as Prime Minister Stephen Harper visited the Western Wall in Jerusalem.

Adler, situated behind barricades at the sacred site earlier this week, pleaded with one of Harper's aides to let him into the main event.

"It's the re-election! This is the million-dollar shot!" Adler said.

The MP for York Centre scoffed at reporters on Wednesday when he was asked about the comments in Tel Aviv, where Harper was bestowed with an honorary doctorate from the Tel Aviv University.

"You guys don't get a joke, huh? It was all said tongue-in-cheek," Adler said.

The Prime Minister's Office denied Adler was in the doghouse for his remark.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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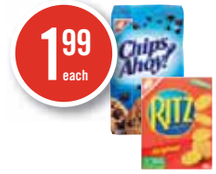

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Justin Bieber arrested in Miami, charged with DUI

Hard to Beliebe. A bratty teen pop star, alcohol, drugs, a yellow Lamborghini — what could go wrong?

So what could happen?

For a first DUI offence, there is no minimum sentence and a maximum of six months, a fine of up to $500, and 50 hours of community service.

When he debuted five years ago, Justin Bieber was a mop-haired heartthrob, clean cut and charming. But a series of troubling incidents have put his innocent image at risk, and none more so than his arrest on DUI charges Thursday.

Police say they arrested a bleary-eyed Bieber — smelling of alcohol — after officers saw him drag-racing before dawn on a residential street, his yellow Lamborghini travelling at nearly twice the speed limit.

The 19-year-old singer later admitted smoking marijuana, drinking and taking a prescription medication, police say. Unlike previous dustups, this arrest has him facing potential jail time.

Bieber was charged with DUI, driving with an expired licence and resisting arrest without violence. His Miami-Dade County jail mug shot showed the singer smiling in a bright red inmate jumpsuit, his hair still stylishly coiffed.

Bieber made his initial court appearance via a video link from jail. Bieber's bond was set at $2,500.

Bieber left jail about an hour after his court appearance, popping through a window of his black SUV in a black hoodie and sunglasses to wave to crowds of reporters and young girls waiting to see him.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jeremy Bieber, father of Justin Bieber, leaves the Turner Guilford Knight Correctional Center in Miami Thursday. Justin Bieber was released from jail Thursday after his arrest on charges of driving under the influence, driving with an expired licence and resisting arrest. HECTOR GABINO/EL NUEVO HERALD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Going down? Diners bored while waiting on Ford, who was stuck between floors

Toronto Mayor Rob Ford arrived more than an hour late for a lunch-hour speech to the Economic Club of Canada today, saying he had been stuck in an elevator for 45 minutes.

The president and CEO of the club said she was trapped in the same elevator with Ford. Rhiannon Traill said the group took a freight elevator to "avoid all the traffic" in the lobby.

Ford was "so calm and gracious" during the ordeal, Traill said, noting they discussed his speech and his campaign for re-election.

"Unfortunately, we were stuck in between floors so they couldn't get us out for a while," she said.

Despite their best efforts, the group wasn't able to alert event organizers of the reason for the delay, Traill said.

The mayor himself would not elaborate on what happened.

Several members of the business crowd left before Ford's arrival, with one saying he had too much work to do and couldn't wait any longer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Belgium

Dine-and-dasher discovered done-in

Authorities are investigating the death of a gastronomic freeloader as a possible murder. Two days after the father of Titus Clarysse found him dead in his apartment, investigators were looking Thursday for suspects in what a spokesperson called "a case of murder or manslaughter."

Clarysse was famed in and around the town of Ghent for walking into any restaurant of his choosing, ordering anything from steak to lobsters and walking out without paying.

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Is your go-to password 123456?

Then it's time to up your game. Research shows most online passwords are too easy

STEVE SMITH
Metro World News

Passwords are a nightmare to remember, but even so, we are incredibly bad at them. Research from password management company SplashData has discovered the majority of people undermine their security with easily guessed codes, and company CEO Morgan Slain highlights these failures.

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SplashData found 9.8% of users have the passwords 123456 or 12345678.

Are we changing our habits at all?

The main trends are that short numerical passwords are continuing to show up, even though more sites are requiring stronger alphanumeric passwords. Passwords like "adobe123" and "photoshop" showing up from the Adobe security breach last year highlight the risks of basing a password on the app or website you are logging into.

Everything needs a password these days, but how are we to remember them all?

The simplest answer here really is to use a password manager like SplashID Safe. Otherwise, it's difficult or impossible to remember dozens of unique, strong passwords. One way to create more secure passwords that are easy to recall is to start using passphrases, short words with spaces or other characters separating them. It's best to use random words rather than common phrases. For example, "cakes years birthday" or "smiles_light_skip?"

Is caramel colouring safe?

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration says there's no reason to believe that the colouring added to sodas is unsafe, but the agency is taking another look just to make sure. The agency's announcement comes in response to a study by Consumer Reports showing 12 brands of soda have varying levels of 4-Methylimidazole, an impurity found in some caramel colouring. GETTY IMAGES

Market Minute

DOLLAR 90.10¢ (-0.09¢)

TSX 13,932.97 (-55.23)

OIL $97.32 US (+$0.59)

GOLD $1,262.30 US (+$23.70)

Natural gas: $4.83 US (+$0.13)
Dow Jones: 16,197.35 (-175.99)

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THE METRO LIST

Mike Benhaim
metronews.ca

Firmly settled into the new year, with the brisk winter upon us, we watch our resolutions crumbling by the hour. There remains a buzz, no longer of holiday cheer or annoying relatives, but of social media exploding with up-to-the minute news that matters most. Here are some of the items trending highest in this week's Twittersphere.

1 **The puppy that lost its way.** This week's top hashtags were #JustinBieber and #DUI. People forget that this is just a normal 19-year-old boy, experimenting with drugs, sex and cars. Is it his fault he just happens to have access to the very finest of all three? But he'll be OK, because just like an adorable little puppy, he can poop right on your shoes, and look at you innocently, as if to say, "Wanna rub my belly?"#WeWillAlwaysSupportYouJustin.

2 **Dennis Rodman.** The surest way for a celebrity (and I use the term loosely here) to trend high is to check into rehab. But this former NBA bad boy was already under fire for his relationship with Kim Jong-un, and compounded it by going nuts in a satellite interview (from North Korea) with CNN anchor Chris Cuomo. Nothing gets folks a-tweetin' like a rant so incoherent, it's incomprehensible to two cultures simultaneously. What's the Korean word for "huh?"

3 **Hilton-grooven.** Her audacious claim that she was "one of the top 5 DJs in the world" ignited online controversy until Paris Hilton explained that she was merely one of the top five "HIGHEST PAID DJs..." What followed was a global DJ community left in a silent state of melancholy introspection.

4 **Really, Rob?** Toronto's mayor revived his dwindling buzz with footage of yet another drunken jabberfest earlier this week. Reporters were unable to focus on budget-related questions after seeing him rant in faux-Patois at the Steak Queen restaurant. So much for getting "enough to eat at home."

5 **Greatest game ever, dude.** The Super Bowl always ranks high in online chatter, but this year features Seattle versus Denver, and takes place in New Jersey, where constituents just re-elected Gov. Chris Christie. So it's hard to gauge whether trending is due to the NFL's huge fan base, or the fact that everyone is stoned. One thing's for sure: Announcers will have to speak very slowly.

6 **Tennis, anyone?** Eugenie Bouchard became the first Canadian to advance this far in the Australian Open, but apparently that's not as interesting as her crush on Justin Bieber, according to the latest Twitter trend #GenieArmy.

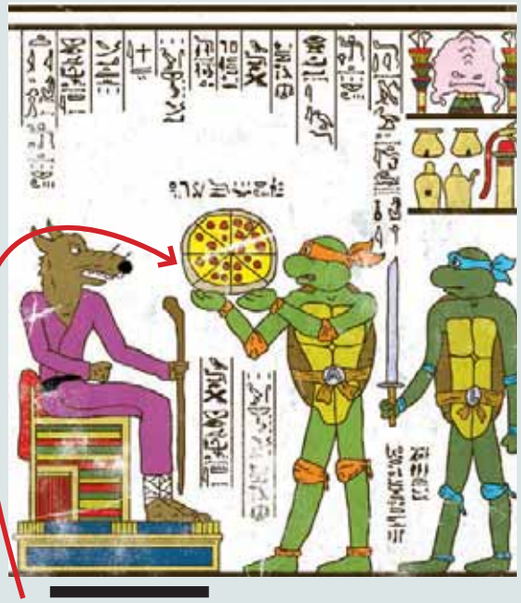
7 **In the wrong business.** Not on the list just yet, but on the topic of trends, iconic Canadian men's fashion chain Harry Rosen celebrates its 60th anniversary this coming month. I take a moment to reflect back on the memory of all of the contemporary brand-name fashions I was never able to afford, and still can't.

8 **Time well spent.** This week's highest-ranking online subject went to Oxfam's report that the world's 85 richest people have as much wealth as half of Earth's population. What they don't tell you is that it's because the bottom half spends the majority of their time tweeting and posting selfies on Instagram. The other 85 are shopping at Harry Rosen as we speak.

Follow The Metro List on Twitter @TheMetroList

ZOOM

Hero-glyphics are a Marvel to behold



COURTESY JOSHLANEDESIGN.COM

TV icons star in ancient artwork

An artist has transported superheroes into a world of sacred myths, by drawing them in hieroglyphics. In his series Hero-glyphics, Josh Lane blends our favourite TV and comic-book characters — from Star Trek and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles to X-Men (not pictured) — with the ancient Egyptian art form. METRO

Q and A

Accidental genius

JOSH LANE
Graphic designer and illustrator, 27, from Kansas City, Mo.

What was the inspiration for the superheroes?

I tend to read very fast, which is usually a curse, but one time I read the word "hieroglyphics" as "hero-glyphics." Immediately I started daydreaming about the possible hero scenarios and combinations.

In a world where the Egyptian gods could fight Marvel superheroes, who would win? Osiris and Anubis, or the X-Men?

The X-Men for sure, because they are a team. I could see the Egyptian gods fighting each other for power, leaving an opportunity for the X-Men to strike.

Clickbait

GETTY IMAGES

Deciding where you want to eat can be tough, even before those pesky hunger pangs kick in. So if you want to find a restaurant quickly, and also give the impression you are a gastronomical crackerjack, check out these apps.

Foodspotting:

This app knows that you eat with your eyes first. It lets you view photos of various dishes arranged by best, latest and nearest to you that have been uploaded by other patrons. Once you've found a drool-worthy dish, you can access the restaurant's info.

Open Table:

You can take advantage of your co-ordinates to find a restaurant and reserve a table. There are other auxiliary features such as searching restaurants by name, the interactive map, and you can also access restaurant info via a link to the site.

Vegout:

It lets you find vegetarian/vegan/vegetarian-friendly restaurants based on your location. The only drawback is it doesn't allow you to type in a specific restaurant.

Twitter

@metropicks asked: A stall with 2 toilets at a Sochi stadium has left many flushed. What is the strangest toilet set-up you have seen?

@nicolemartelle: 2 toilets in one stall (the stall connecting wall was torn down) in high school. fixed it after 2 days

@kokoskag: I have seen the double toilet set up in NFLD. Didn't look as nice as this though!

@strangerob: 3 seat thunderbox on several ftx, or possibly the latrine in Ft Lewis that had something like 6 toilets in a row.

@Dweller15: it's not new and not funny,take a look internet full of that crap

@beccawhite1984: that would be great if you have kids. They usually have to go at the same time.

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:
Send us your comments: calgaryletters@metronews.ca

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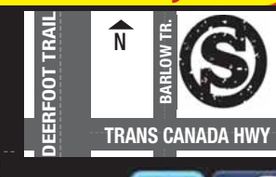

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Synopsis

I, Frankenstein, Aaron Eckhart's martial arts update of the famous Mary Shelley story, wasn't screened for the press in time to meet our deadline, so after a long conversation with our editor the Reel Guys have decided to do a column on Eckhart's oeuvre. At least that's how we see it. Our boss has a different idea. "As your editor I demand a thorough dissection of Eckhart's abs," she wrote before adding: "More than pretty, Eckhart is." What follows is our humble attempt to mix cinematic business with our editor's pleasure.

Aaron Eckhart in a scene from I, Frankenstein. Metro's movies editor digs Eckhart's physique, but the Reel Guys say there's more to him than abs and cleft. CONTRIBUTED

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

Why we love Aaron Eckhart

A-lister. He's got the acting chops ... and that cleft. So why isn't he a household name?

Richard: Mark, Aaron Eckhart isn't exactly a household name, but he has appeared in some very big movies. He's the only live-action actor in the Batman films to play both Harvey Dent and his villainous alter-ego Two-Face. The Dark Knight is by far and away his biggest hit, followed by his star-making turn in Erin Brockovich. But despite those box office busters we don't talk about the handsome actor in the same breath as A-listers like Cruise, DiCaprio or Smith. He has the above-mentioned abs and is versatile enough to star in everything from video game action movies like Battle: Los Angeles to hardcore dramas like Rabbit Hole and yet doesn't get the same recognition as many of his peers. What's your take on him?

Mark: You mean the cleft that walked like a man? I could probably fit my grad thesis in there! Eckhart exploded onto my radar with two films he did in the late '90s, both by the cynical playwright Neil LaBute: In the Company of Men, and Your Friends & Neighbors. In both films he plays despicable, almost un-watchably misogynistic men. The key word here is almost. As rotten as he behaves in these movies, there's an inchoate grace under the surface that redeems the characters, and it's a testimony to his acting skills that he can keep us watching. And that cleft.

RC: Some like the cleft, some the abs. I like his versatility. In a year span between 2010 and '11 he released three very different movies. In Rabbit Hole, he and Nicole Kidman were a couple trying to deal with the death of their four-year-old son. They are at different stages of their grief, but they share a couple of things: a terrible sense of loss and an inability to know how to deal with it. Terrific stuff. Next was the alien invader movie Battle: Los Angeles followed by The Rum Diaries where he played a slick PR person. Three different movies and three very different performances. Maybe we have a hard time defining him because he constantly does wild career flip-flops.

MB: Or because there's an opacity to him that allows him to play so many compromised characters, allowing us to project our feelings onto him. Look at one of his finest roles, as the tobacco lobbyist in Thank You for Smoking. He's so slick, so shifty, we don't judge him, precisely because we don't really know him. A quality that's great for an actor, but less so for a movie star. I really liked him in Rabbit Hole and Rum Diaries, too, but his mainstream work doesn't register with me as much. Except for his cleft.

RC: He's made a number of movies I wouldn't recommend for the big screen but work well enough as rentals. Two action films, Erased and Suspect Zero, are very VOD friendly and feature many cleft hero shots.

MB: Or two romantic comedies that would have been disastrous without him: No Reservations and Love Happens. He doesn't do nude scenes in them, though, because in close-up you couldn't tell if it were his backside or his cleft.

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Classics get reeled into the digital era

Great Digital Film Festival. Check out your favourite films in a fine new format

CHRIS ALEXANDER
scene@metronews.ca

Planet of the Apes CONTRIBUTED

With celluloid withering as the cinema-screening media of choice, the digital revolution is not only here to stay, it is — dare we say — superior to its sprocket-dependent predecessor. Purists be damned, with digital projection you don't get colour fades, melted frames, strip breaks or foreign hairs dancing in the corners of the screen.

If you want to watch your favourite movies and experience them in a state of rebirth, digital is quite simply the way to go.

The iconic exhibitors at Cineplex have embraced this change, hence the latest installment in their annual Great Digital Film Festival, returning January 31st to February 6th to select Cineplex screens across Canada. Over 20 celebrated classics of cinema, from superhero gems to cult oddities to action blowouts are unspooling (so to speak) this round and while all are solid draws, Metro has selected a handful of pictures that are essential HD viewing experiences.

Planet of the Apes (1968)
It doesn't get much better than this retro-future shock masterpiece, in which Charlton Heston plays an astronaut jettisoned back to the primal future where simians hold court and humans are livestock and worse. A brilliant nightmare that spawned an entire subculture is exhibited here in a gorgeous, crisp transfer.

Brazil (1985)
Terry Gilliam's surrealist dystopian mind-bender has no peer, with kinetic visuals, wild-eyed performances (including a hilarious turn by Robert De Niro) and social commentary smashed into one mad, mad movie. A must-see.

Logan's Run (1976)
Join Michael York and Jenny Agutter as lovers on the run in a beautiful, abstract and distinctly '70s-centric future where the government allows each citizen 30 years of life before they are ritualistically executed. The film is a landscape of blown out whites and becomes an all-consuming environment on the big screen.

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF FILMS, SCREENING TIMES AND PARTICIPATING THEATERS VISIT CINEPLEX.COM/EVENTS/DIGITALFILMFEST

Batman (1989)

Michael Keaton as Batman CONTRIBUTED

Tim Burton's original venture into Dark Knight territory has aged beautifully — Prince music notwithstanding — and balances camp, noir and psychodrama with aplomb. Stylish and eccentric, with rich blacks, blues and browns that are deftly drawn out in digital.

Whitewash unleashes the cold and the complex upon Thomas Haden Church

Deep freeze. Actor braved both a complicated character study and cornstarch storms for his new role

RICHARD CROUSE
scene@metronews.ca

It wasn't the wind and snow that Thomas Haden Church found "punishing" when shooting the new psychological thriller Whitewash in northern Quebec, but the lack of it.

"You know how it goes," he says. "You shoot one day and it's the perfect conditions and two days later it's 50 degrees (10 degrees Celsius) and you have to figure out a way to make it match. We had blizzards and we had giant fans with cornstarch.

"When we started shooting there was a storm blowing in but as God would have it three hours later there's not a flake of snow floating through the air so they pull out the eight-foot fans and crank up the Corvette engines that drive them and start hucking cornstarch at me.

"It is still cold as all get out, and with those fans blowing sometimes you wish the blizzard would come back and they'd turn the fans off. Those fans will fling stuff at you at sixty miles an hour. Those things are punishing to stand in front of."

The cornstarch plays a crucial role in the film's opening and defining scene. During a whiteout snowstorm — enhanced with the white, fluffy thickener for extra effect — Church's character Bruce takes a wild, drunken ride on a bulldozer that leaves a man dead.

Unnerved, he hides the body in a snow bank and lams it to the deep woods to avoid police and clear his head.

Thomas Haden Church stars in Whitewash, which opens in Toronto and Ottawa this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

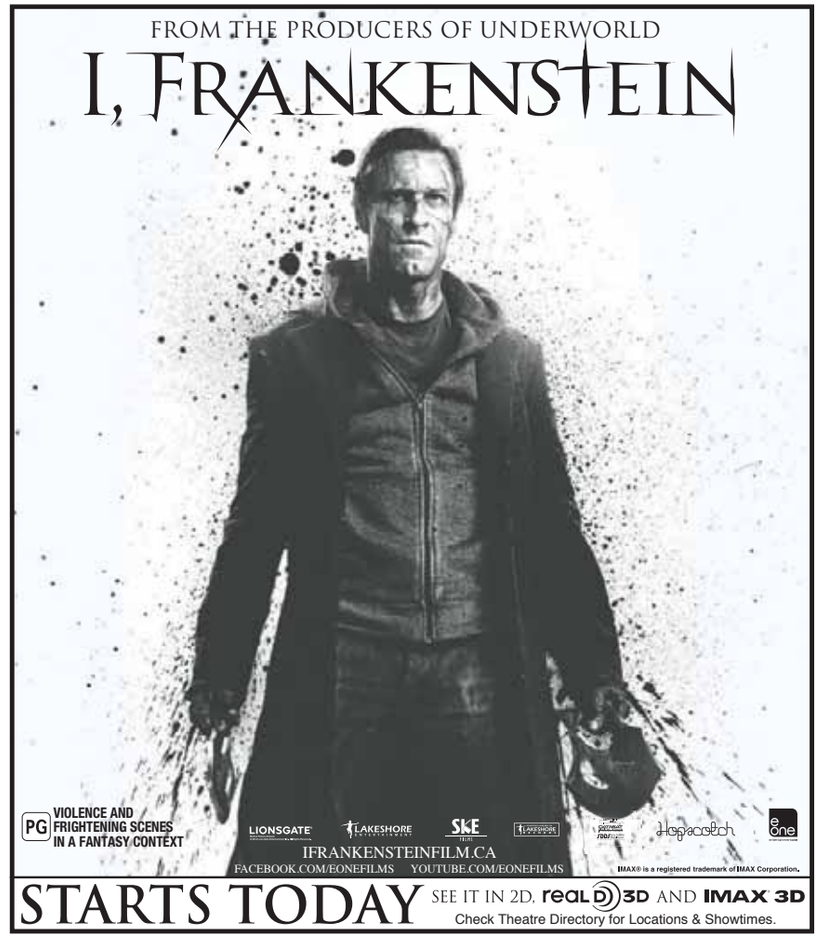
"When I read it a buddy of mine who works with me said, 'You know, sometimes you read 'em and you know what you know. You gotta go.' I knew as soon as I read Whitewash I had to go. The challenges, the character, the uniqueness of the setting, the emotional complexity of what he goes through. There is tragedy but I think by the end of the movie there is this affirmation that everybody landed on the mortal coil where they were supposed to be."

Church is in virtually every scene and delivers an extraordinary, minimalist performance.

He doesn't appear to be doing much, but subtly rides the lines between sanity and insanity, between absurdity and logic, leaving the viewer off balance as the film veers between the present and flashbacks.

"Even as far back as working in television comedy as I did, I always wanted more nuance, more reflection, more moments of whatever the whisper line between comedy and drama is," he says.

"That really is defined by human circumstance and human behavior. Even when we were promoting this picture that I did called Sideways, we'd do these big Q&As and one time this guy said, 'It must be really interesting. In the dramatic scenes you make very dramatic choices and in the comedic scenes you make very comedic choices.' No man, maybe it sounds a bit elitist or pseudo-intellectual but I make human choices. I'm just trying to play a real guy."



THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., JAN. 24 TO THURS., JAN. 30 TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Canyon Meadows
Bay 110 13226 Macleod Trail

About Time (14A) Fri-Thu 7:10
The Book Thief (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:55-6:45-9:35
Captain Phillips (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-4-6:55-9:40
Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2 (G) Fri-Thu 1-3:30-7:30
Delivery Man (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:45-7:25-10:05
Ender's Game (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:50-6:55-9:35
Free Birds (G) Fri-Thu 12:55-4:30
Grudge Match (14A) Fri-Thu 9:50
Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa (14A) Fri-Thu 10
Last Vegas (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:35-9:30
Lee Daniels' The Butler (14A) Fri-Thu 6:50-9:40
The Saratov Approach (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-4:05-7:20-9:45
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:10-7:15-9:55
Walking With Dinosaurs (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4-7:05

Crowfoot Crossing
91 Crowfoot Terrace

American Hustle (14A) Fri 1:05-3:55-6:50-9:45 Sat-Sun 1-3:55-6:50-9:45 Mon-Tue 1:05-3:55-6:50-9:45 Wed 4:30-7:20-10:20 Thu 1:05-3:55-6:50-9:45 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1:30
Devil's Due (14A) Fri 2:40-5:45-8:10-10:35 Sat 1:05-3:20-5:45-8:10-10:35 Sun 1:05-3:20-5:45-8:05-10:20 Mon-Thu 2:40-5:40-8-10:20
Frozen (G) Fri 2 Sat-Sun 12:10 Mon-Thu 2
Frozen 3D (G) Fri 5:15-7:40 Sat-Sun 2:45-5:15-7:40 Mon-Thu 5:15-7:40
Giselle From the Royal Opera House (STC) Mon 7
Her (14A) Fri-Thu 10:05
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 4:55-8:20
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 2:50-6:40-9:55 Sat 12:20-3:30-6:40-9:55 Sun 12:20-3:30-6:40-9:50 Mon 2:50-9:50 Tue-Wed 2:50-6:40-9:50 Thu 2:50
I, Frankenstein 3D (PG) Fri 2:30-5:35-8-10:30 Sat 12:45-3:10-5:35-8-10:30 Sun 12:45-3:10-5:35-7:55-10:15 Mon-Thu 2:30-5:30-7:50-10:10
Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit (PG) Fri 1:50-5-7:30-10:10 Sat 12-2:30-5-7:30-10:10 Sun 12-2:30-5-7:30-10 Mon-Tue 1:50-4:35-7:10-9:40 Wed 4:35-7:10-9:40 Thu 1:50-4:35-7:10-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1:30
Lone Survivor (14A) Fri 1:40-4:25-7:10-10:15 Sat 1:25-4:25-7:10-10:15 Sun 1:25-4:25-7:10-10 Mon-Thu 1:40-4:25-7:15-10
National Theatre Live: Coriolanus (STC) Thu 7
The Nut Job (G) Fri 2:20 Sat-Sun 12:50 Mon-Thu 2:20
The Nut Job 3D (G) Fri 5:10-7:20-9:35 Sat-Sun 3-5:10-7:20-9:35 Mon-Thu 5:10-7:20-9:35
Ride Along (PG) Fri 2:10-5:25-7:50-10:25 Sat 12:30-2:55-5:25-7:50-10:25 Sun 12:30-2:55-5:20-7:45-10:10 Mon 2:10-5-7:35-10:30 Tue-Thu 2:10-5-7:35-10:15
Saving Mr. Banks (PG) Fri 1:20-4:10-7-9:50 Sat 1:15-4:10-7-9:50 Sun 1:15-4:10-7-9:55 Mon-Thu 1:20-4:10-7-9:55
The Smurfs (G) Sat 11
The Wolf of Wall Street (18A) Fri 1-4:45-8:30 Sat-Sun 12:35-4:35-8:30 Mon-Thu 1-4:45-8:30

Eau Claire Market
200 Barlay Parade

American Hustle (14A) Fri 6:50-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:50-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:30-8:30
August: Osage County (14A) Fri 7-10 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:20-7-10 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:10
Dallas Buyers Club (18A) Fri 6:40-9:40 Sat-Sun 1-3:50-6:40-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:40
Gravity 3D (PG) Fri 7:15-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:10-7:15-9:30 Mon-Thu 6-8:50
Inside Llewyn Davis (14A) Fri 6:30-9:20 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:30-6:30-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:20
The Wolf of Wall Street (18A) Fri 7:50 Sat-Sun 12:20-4-7:50 Mon-Thu 7:45

Landmark Cinemas 16
Country Hills
388 Country Hills Blvd.

American Hustle (14A) , SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 12:10-3:30-6:40-10:05 , SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 3:30-6:40-10:05
August: Osage County (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Fri-Sun 12:20-3:20-6:20-9:20 SR Dolby Digital, Mon-Thu 3:20-6:20-9:20
Dallas Buyers Club (18A) SR Dolby Digital, Fri-Sun 1:10-4:10-7:05-9:55 SR Dolby Digital, Mon-Thu 4:10-7:05-9:55
Devil's Due (14A) SR Dolby Digital, , No Passes Fri-Sun 1:15-3:50-7:10 SR Dolby Digital, , No Passes Mon-Thu 3:50-7-10
Frozen (G) SR Dolby Digital, Fri-Thu 4
Frozen 3D (G) SR Dolby Digital, Fri-Sun 1-6:45 SR Dolby Digital, Mon-Thu 6:45
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG) , SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 12
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Fri-Thu 3:55-7:45
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Fri-Sun 12-3:20-6:50-10:15 SR Dolby Digital, Mon-Thu 3:20-6:50-10:15
I, Frankenstein (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Fri-Thu 3
I, Frankenstein 3D (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Fri-Sat 12:05-6:05-9:40 SR Dolby Digital, Sun 12:35-6:05-9:40 SR Dolby Digital, Mon-Thu 6:05-9:40
I, Frankenstein: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Fri-Sun 12:40-3:25-6:30-9:30 SR Dolby Digital, Mon-Thu 3:25-6:30-9:30
Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit (PG) , SR Dolby Digital Fri-Sun 1:10-4:10-6:50-9:50 , SR Dolby Digital Mon-Thu 4:10-6:50-9:50
Jai Ho (STC) SR Dolby Digital, , Sub-Titled Fri-Sun 12:35-3:35-6:30-9:20 SR Dolby Digital, , Sub-Titled Mon-Thu 3:35-6:30-9:20
Lone Survivor (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Fri-Sun 12:45-3:50-7-10:05 SR Dolby Digital, Mon-Thu 3:50-7-10:05
The Nut Job (G) SR Dolby Digital, Fri-Thu 3:10
The Nut Job 3D (G) SR Dolby Digital, Fri-Sun 12:20-6:15-9 SR Dolby Digital, Mon-Thu 6:15-9
Philomena (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Fri-Sun 12:25-3:40-6:25-9:10 SR Dolby Digital, Mon-Thu 3:40-6:25-9:10
Ride Along (PG) , SR Dolby Digital, No Passes Fri-Sun 12:55-3:40-6:10-9:10 , SR Dolby Digital, No Passes Mon-Thu 3:40-6:10-9:10
Saving Mr. Banks (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Fri-Thu 9:30
The Wolf of Wall Street (18A) SR Dolby Digital, Fri-Sun 12:10-4-8 SR Dolby Digital, Mon-Thu 4-8

Landmark Cinemas 10 Shawnessy & EXTRA Calgarytudio
100-16061 MacLeod Trail

American Hustle (14A) , Fri-Thu 12-3:20-6:45-10
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (14A) , Fri-Thu 9:50
August: Osage County (14A) , Fri-Wed 12:20-3:10-6:20-9:40 , Thu 3:10-6:20-9:40
Frozen (G) , Fri-Thu 4:10
Frozen 3D (G) , Fri-Thu 1:15-7:15
Her (14A) , Fri-Thu 12:30
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG) , Fri-Thu 3:50-8:15
I, Frankenstein (PG) , Fri-Thu 4:30
I, Frankenstein 3D (PG) , Fri-Thu 1:45-7:45-10:15
Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit (PG) , Fri-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:30-10:20
Lone Survivor (14A) , Fri-Tue 12:45-3:40-7-10:10 , Wed 3:40-7-10:10 , Thu 12:45-3:40-7-10:10
The Nut Job (G) , Fri-Thu 3:30
The Nut Job 3D (G) , Fri-Thu 1-6:30-9:20
Philomena (PG) , Fri-Thu 12:10-3-6:10-9:30
The Wolf of Wall Street (18A) , Fri-Thu 12-4-8

Scotiabank Chinook
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12 Years a Slave (14A) Fri-Sun 1-4-7:05-10:10 Mon-Wed 12:55-4-7:05-10:10 Thu 4-7:05-10:10 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
47 Ronin 3D (PG) Fri-Tue 1:40-4:40-7:40-10:30 Wed-Thu 1:40-4:40-10:30
American Hustle (14A) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:50-7:10-10:25
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (14A) Fri-Sat 1:10-4:20-7:20-10:15 Sun 12:05-4-10:15 Mon 1:10-4:25-10:15 Tue-Thu 1:10-4:25-7:20-10:15
August: Osage County (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:20-7:15-10:10
Devil's Due (14A) Fri-Sun 12:20-2:50-5:10-7:45-10:05 Mon-Thu 12:30-2:50-5:10-7:45-10:05
Frozen (G) Fri-Sun 11:35-2:25 Mon-Thu 12:50
Frozen 3D (G) Fri-Sun 5:05-7:45 Mon-Thu 3:45-6:50
Giselle From the Royal Opera House (STC) Mon 7
Her (14A) Fri-Wed 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:35 Thu 4:30-7:30-10:35 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG) Fri-Sun 11:45 Mon-Thu 1:45
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 3:20-7-10:35 Mon-Thu 5:20-9:30
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri-Sat 12-3:25-6:50-10:15 Sun 12-2:50-6:50-10:15 Mon-Thu 2:45-6:30-10
I, Frankenstein 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:05-5:30-8-10:40 Mon-Thu 1:25-4:15-7:20-10:25
I, Frankenstein: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Fri-Sun 12-2:25-4:50-7:25-10 Mon-Thu 2:25-4:50-7:25-10
Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit (PG) Fri-Sun 11:30-2:05-4:40-7:20-10:05 Mon-Thu 1:35-4:10-7:25-10:15
Lone Survivor (14A) Fri-Sun 1:45-4:45-7:50-10:45 Mon-Wed 1:15-4:05-7:10-10:05 Thu 1:15-4:05-7:35-10:45
National Theatre Live: Coriolanus (STC) Thu 7
The Nut Job (G) Fri-Thu 12:45-3
The Nut Job 3D (G) Fri-Thu 5:15-7:35-9:55
Ride Along (PG) Fri-Sun 11:50-2:30-5:15-8:10-10:50 Mon-Tue 1-4-7-9:50 Wed 1-4-7:45-9:50 Thu 1-4-7-9:50
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (PG) Fri-Sun 10:30 Mon-Thu 9:40
The Smurfs (G) Sat 11
The Wolf of Wall Street (18A) Fri-Sun 2:40-6:30-10:20 Mon-Thu 1-5-9:20
WWE Royal Rumble - 2014 (STC) Sun 6

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12 Years a Slave (14A) Sat 2:15 Sun 8:15 Mon-Thu 9
Philomena (PG) Fri 9:15 Sat 5 Sun 3:45-6 Mon-Thu 7

Sunridge Spectrum
2555 32nd Street

47 Ronin 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 9:55
American Hustle (14A) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:45-7:05-10:15 Mon-Thu 1:45-6:15-10:15
Devil's Due (14A) Fri-Sun 1:40-4-7:25-10:05 Mon-Thu 1:40-4:20-7:55-10:15
Frozen (G) Fri-Sun 12:30 Mon-Thu 1:05
Frozen 3D (G) Fri-Sun 3:40-7:15 Mon-Thu 3:55-7:15
Girl, Boy, Bakla, Tomboy (PG) Fri-Sun 12:25-3:35-6:30-9:15 Mon-Thu 1:10-4-6:30-9:15
Her (14A) Fri-Thu 4:10
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG) Fri-Sun 11:55 Mon-Thu 1:25
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 3:25-6:55-10:25 Mon-Thu 5:15-10
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri-Sat 12-3:35-6:35-10:10 Sun 12-10:10 Mon-Tue 1:35-5-10:10 Wed 1:35-10:10 Thu 1:35-5-10:10
I, Frankenstein 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 12:10-3-5:30-8-10:30 Mon-Thu 1:55-4:40-7:25-9:50
Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit (PG) Fri-Sun 12:55-3:30-7:20-10:35 Mon-Thu 1:15-4:25-7:30-10:10
Jai Ho (STC) Fri-Sun 12:15-3:50-7:05-10:20 Mon-Tue 1:20-6:25-10:05 Wed 10:05 Thu 1:20-6:25-10:05
Labor Day (PG) Wed 7
Lone Survivor (14A) Fri-Sun 1:15-4:20-7:30-10:25 Mon-Thu 1:15-4:05-7:30-10:25
The Nut Job (G) Fri-Sun 11:50 Mon-Tue 2 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1:30 Thu 2
The Nut Job 3D (G) Fri-Sun 2:05-4:30-6:45-9:30 Mon-Thu 4:15-6:45-9:30
Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones (14A) Fri-Thu 1:45-7:10-9:45
Ride Along (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:10-7:35-10:05 Mon-Tue 1-3:50-7:50-10:20 Wed 3:50-7:50-10:20 Thu 1-3:50-7:50-10:20 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Smurfs (G) Sat 11
The Wolf of Wall Street (18A) Fri-Sun 12:50-5:15-9:35 Mon-Thu 1:30-5:50-9:40
WWE Royal Rumble - 2014 (STC) Sun 6

Westhills 10
165 Stewart Green

American Hustle (14A) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:45-7-10:15 Mon-Thu 5:10-8:20
August: Osage County (14A) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:50-6:45-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:40
Frozen (G) Fri-Sun 12:30 Mon-Thu 5:20
Frozen 3D (G) Fri-Sun 3:15-6:30 Mon-Thu 7:50
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG) Fri-Sun 1 Mon-Thu 5
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 4:30-9 Mon-Thu 8:30
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri-Sun 9:50
I, Frankenstein 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 1:15-3:55-7:20-10:20 Mon-Thu 6-8:40
Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit (PG) Fri-Sun 12:50-4:05-7:10-10 Mon-Thu 5:25-8:30
Lone Survivor (14A) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:10-7:15-10:10 Mon-Thu 5:35-8:45
The Nut Job (G) Fri-Sun 12:40 Mon-Thu 5:30
The Nut Job 3D (G) Fri-Sun 3:30-5:40-8:15 Mon-Thu 8:15
Philomena (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:40-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:05
The Wolf of Wall Street (18A) Fri-Sun 1-4:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 8

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Cult favourite: The Following

Q&A. Shawn Ashmore talks serial killers, sweaty palms and horror TV

ALEXANDRA CAVALLO
Metro World News in New York

The Following has so much more going for it than six degrees of star power (Kevin Bacon is the lead). The creepy-as-hell crime thriller about a serial killer and cult leader with legions of murderous devotees scares up all kinds of drama.

We spoke with Shawn Ashmore, who plays Bacon's fellow cop Mike Weston.

What drew you to this project? Are you really into horror movies?
I'm definitely a fan of horror films and genre films. The best horror films, at least in my opinion, are the ones that create great characters for the first hour and then deliver on the scares.

I love slow-burn storytelling when it comes to horror films. All of these things kind of came together and made me realize that this was a show that I would probably watch and something that I would want to be a part of.

I feel like there is a trend right now in dark TV, horror shows and the like. What do you attribute that to?
There's an audience for horror films, so certainly there will be an audience, especially when well done, for horror television.

I can't think of any other type of entertainment that physically involves you and stimulates you as much as horror stuff, as genre stuff — like when you can't stand to watch the TV, when you have a tingle running up your spine.

And when you turn the episode off and you go and double-check that your front door is locked because there might be a follower outside, you know what I mean? That's the effect of entertainment.

Do you ever find yourself bringing your work home with you? Hearing bumps in the night, or getting scared when you're home alone because your mind is on the show?
No. The stuff that scares me is all supernatural stuff, ghosts, possessions. Obviously the idea of someone breaking into my house and murdering me is terrifying, but I feel like I could protect myself to a certain extent from something like that.

So, really, it's the unknown that scares me the most. It's the supernatural. The second I finished the pilot, after doing a ton of research on serial killers and stuff like that, I did install an upgraded security system in my house, so I can't say that it had no effect on me, but yeah, it's not something I really get freaked out about.

Do you have a favourite serial killer now?
I won't say favourite, but I did watch a ton of documentaries on YouTube.

I spent days watching. The one serial killer that got under my skin the most was Jeffrey Dahmer. He was just so evil. They all are. I mean if you commit those kinds of crimes... These people were committing acts that — in my mind — I can only explain as evil. But Dahmer was one that really freaked me out.

I watched an interview with him once, when he was in jail, and what was scariest about him, to me, was that he seemed very charming and personable.
Some people have discussions about Joe Carroll (from The Following): You know, he's too handsome and blah blah blah.

Serial killers are most effective when they're charming and handsome because they're chameleons. That's why they're successful, because you don't see them coming. I mean if you see a guy that looks like a madman running around, the second you see him, your guard is up, and those are the guys that get caught right away.

I think that's why we have this fascination with serial killers: because we want to be able to stop them and see them coming. But if they're good at what they do, if they don't fit that profile, that's what's scary.

Shawn Ashmore plays cop Mike Weston on The Following. CONTRIBUTED

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Grammys forecast is the usual mixed bag

Rapper LL Cool J will once again host the Grammys. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Stunning with a heavy chance of excruciating. The awards show always throws up a whole load of talent and the odd mismatch on stage

PAT HEALY
Metro World News

When the 56th annual Grammy Awards air on Sunday night, the last thing millions of viewers will be focused on is the awards themselves. What makes the Grammys are the performances. The programmers know this, which is why in recent years they have featured fewer trophy presentations during the televised portion of the ceremony and more of their oddball pairings of performers. The results often vary from stunning to excruciating, which is why we always tune in. Here's what to look out for on Sunday night.

LL Cool J

LL is back for his third consecutive year as the host, and if the previous years are any indication, he also swings wildly between cringe-worthy — actually saying the phrase "hash tag" in front of everybody's name he mentions like a verbal tweet — and amazing, kicking it old school at the end of last year's ceremony with Chuck D, DJ Z-Trip, Tom Morello and Travis Barker. Also, if you're looking for a Grammys drinking game, if you take a drink after every time the host licks his lips, you'll be wasted before a single note-worthy award is given.

Pharrell Williams

The producer had his hand in two of 2013's mega hits, Robin Thicke's Blurred Lines and Daft Punk's Get Lucky, the latter of which he'll perform with everybody's favorite helmeted Frenchmen. With Nile Rodgers and Stevie Wonder also joining in this jam, you can feel it all over, especially as it's rumoured they'll go into Stevie's classic, Sir Duke. It will also be very surprising if you don't see Pharrell at the podium to accept an award at least once. He's nominated for seven of them!

Robin Thicke and Chicago

You guys remember Robin Thicke from the Video Music Awards? He was the one guy that Miley grinded on who wasn't dressed like a giant stuffed animal. Anyway, he's being given another shot at awards show glory, and this time he's sharing the stage with the legendary nine-piece horn outfit Chicago.

Imagine Dragons and Kendrick Lamar

One of the worst moments in Grammy history happened in 2006, when Linkin Park, Jay Z and Paul McCartney tried to create popular mashups that featured their music.

At that point, mashups were pretty much brand new and musicians were still figuring out how to accompany rappers. Eight years later, hip-hop and rock fit much more naturally, so when Imagine Dragons play their Record of the Year nominee, Radioactive — as Kendrick Lamar raps over it with Swimming Pool, from his Album of the Year nominee, Good Kid, M.A.A.D. City — it has serious potential.

Big sloppy rock ending

There's also no star in an all-star jam. It's kind of like an adaptation of the slogan "there's no I in team." But in this instance it's not necessarily because of the giant egos on stage as it is the fact that when a ton of people plug in instruments and play together, it's just a mess. Earlier this week it was announced that Dave Grohl was curating the finale for the Grammys, which includes Nine Inch Nails, Queens of the Stone Age and Lindsey Buckingham of Fleetwood Mac.

Jay Z and Beyoncé

Yes, this will be beautiful, but wouldn't it be sublime if hip-hop's royal couple silently acted out a dramatic scene while Lorde performed her multiple nominee Royals? Seriously, think about how much that "you can call me Queen Bey" part would resonate.

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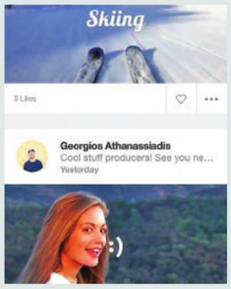
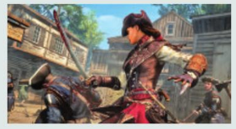


Video game review

Name. Assassin's Creed: Liberation HD

For. PlayStation 3/Xbox 360/PC

Rated. Mature 17+



Aveline de Grandpré is a Lady Assassin of mixed race living during the New Orleans slave trade of 1765. She wears a dress and carries a poison parasol when she wants to be seen and leaps across rooftops in a tunic and arm blade when she does not. A bullwhip and a third disguise help her rescue slaves, but only as background activity to very confusing conspiracies. Glitches make it a difficult game to finish, wasting away much of the creativity that otherwise makes Aveline a thrilling heroine to play. **KRIS ABEL**

3 songs for the weekend

SOUND CHECK
Alan Cross
scene@metronews.ca

A soul singer, a Eurovision contestant and something that is not a song (but you should check it out anyway)

Love Me Again/John Newman

Is this guy the male Amy Winehouse? I don't mean in terms of personal demons, but in the way this guy's got soul. Fantastic!

My Lesbian Girl/Sasha Bognibov

Eurovision, the continent-wide talent show, is once again underway. Sasha Bognibov, known for such songs as Do You Like My Sexy Lips, is back for another go. If The X Factor was more like this, I'd watch.

World's longest echo/Some oil storage tanks in Scotland

Not a song, but a fascinating piece of audio nonetheless. A single blank pistol shot echoed in these storage tanks for a full one minute and 12 seconds, a new world record.

Television

Homeland can miss the realism mark, ex-CIA operative says

Former CIA operative Valerie Plame has a mixed opinion of Showtime's spy drama Homeland.

Plame said Wednesday the Emmy Award-winning TV series is a compelling drama and that star Claire Danes is "fabulous" as a CIA operations officer.

But Plame told a TV critics' meeting it's not credible that the character's bipolar disorder would go unnoticed. She says the depiction of cellphone use inside CIA headquarters is another gaffe, since the phones are not secure and can be traced.

Plame left the CIA after her covert identity was compromised by information leaked to a newspaper columnist in 2003.

She is among those featured in the PBS documentary series Makers: Women Who Make America, airing later this year.

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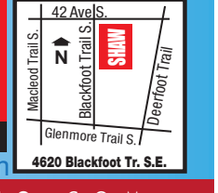

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Egos heat up in the kitchen: Chef

Cooking up competition.
The elimination-style contest is not for the faint of heart

Every chef has a "mean streak," says MasterChef Canada judge Michael Bonacini.

"You have to in this business," insists the food guru, who operates a fleet of Ontario restaurants with partner Peter Oliver. "It can be cutthroat, it can be aggressive, it can be demanding and you have to be constantly 'on' when you're cooking."

Bonacini, along with co-judges Alvin Leung and Claudio Aprile, are putting 50 Canadian home chefs through their paces on MasterChef Canada, airing Monday evenings at 8 p.m. ET on CTV.

The elimination-style cooking contest has had popular incarnations around the world, including the U.S. version hosted by tough-talking Scottish chef Gordon Ramsay. When asked if he'll be the bad cop on MasterChef Canada, Bonacini demurs.

"You'll have to watch the show to find out," he says.

Shows like MasterChef Canada, Bonacini believes, have proven to be a great source of motivation for home chefs.

"The growth of great TV shows and in particular something like MasterChef Canada definitely inspires people to revisit that burning desire to get into the food business in some way, shape or form," says the chef.

"Certainly I think that what it offers home cooks is a window into professional kitchens." The 50 finalists come from diverse backgrounds, with a plumber, an opera singer and a tattoo artist among the group. Canadian cuisine, he notes, has changed dramatically in the two decades since he opened his upscale Toronto restaurant Canoe with a home-grown focus.

"The momentum that has grown over the last 18 years is enormous," says Bonacini. "I think that we understand in much more detail the local regional culinary flavours that we have to offer.

"It is that sort of fabric that allows us to showcase all that is Canadian cuisine."

Bonacini says chefs are "competitive by spirit and nature" and have "certain egos." There is a $100,000 prize at stake on MasterChef Canada and the judge advises competitors to "remain focused and go for it."

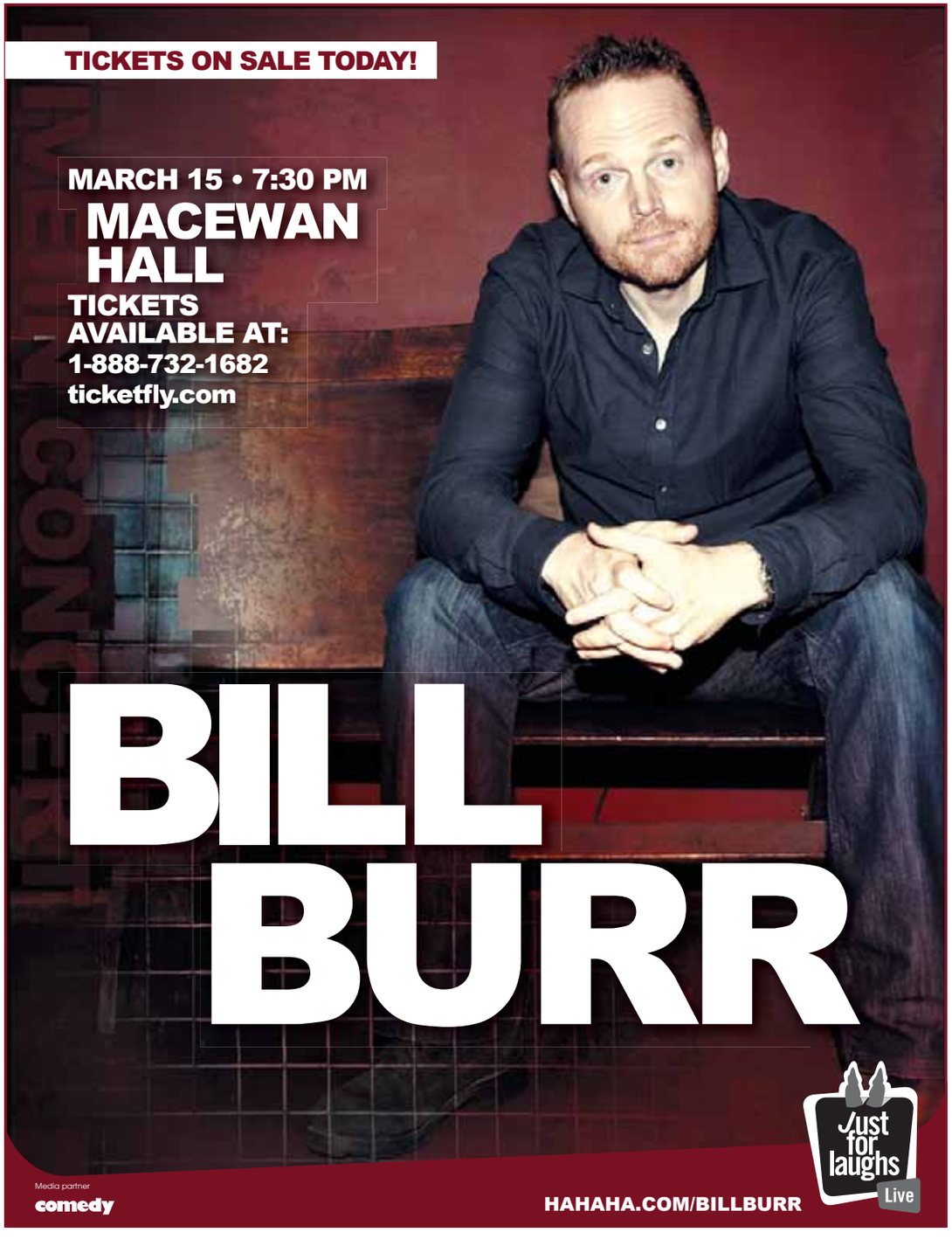
The first elimination episode of MasterChef Canada will air following the Super Bowl on Feb. 2.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hungry for victory?

"You have to come out with your A game every single challenge."
MasterChef Canada judge Michael Bonacini

MasterChef Canada judges, from left, Claudio Aprile, Michael Bonacini and Alvin Leung. CTV



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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Lady Gaga ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Big money lawsuits and disputes aplenty, just another day being Gaga

Lady Gaga is trying to keep some things secret, particularly a settlement with a former producer, which she's vying to have sealed, according to Radar Online. Producer and ex-boyfriend Rob Fusari filed a $30.5 million lawsuit against Gaga in 2010, claiming he helped transform Stefani Germanotta into the pop star she is today. The suit was settled out of court, with the details of the settlement sealed at the time, but now Fusari is being sued by another producer, Wendy Starland, who claims she also helped discover Gaga, and the discovery phase of that suit could unseal the documents from the first suit. "In 2010, Germanotta entered into a confidential settlement agreement with Fusari and Rob Fusari Productions, resolving certain disputes, unrelated to the instant action, that had arisen between them," Gaga's lawyer writes in the filing. "These documents include sensitive financial information that could inflict significant professional harm upon Germanotta if disclosed."

The Word

Good Lorde! Taylor really is BFFs with just about everyone

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News

Is there anyone Taylor Swift isn't BFFs with? She hangs out with everyone from sitcom stars like Sarah Hyland from Modern Family and to indie darlings like Lena Dunham to fellow pop stars like Selena Gomez. And now, apparently, she's added Lorde to her collection.

In a Rolling Stone profile, Lorde says she often texts Taylor for advice, even about something as minor as which knickknack to buy for her home. "Taylor's supergood at this stuff," the Royals singer says. "She's decorated her own houses for ages."

The two young stars weren't always so lovey-dovey — Lorde once told a reporter that she thought Swift was a bad influence. "Taylor Swift is so flawless, and so unattainable, and I don't think it's breeding anything good in young girls (who might think) 'I'm never going to be like Taylor Swift, why can't I be as pretty as Lorde?' That's bulls.," she said.

So how did the two end up BFFs? Because Taylor's a class act, pretty much, and sent Lorde a bouquet of roses when Royals hit No. 1. "I was floored," Lorde admits. Is there anyone Taylor can't win over? I really think she is laying the groundwork for a major showbiz power grab, backed by her cadre of female starlets of every stripe. And I could not love it more.

Mariah Carey

Mariah and hubby want to be Roc and Roe stars

Mariah Carey and Nick Cannon are working on a children's book. Scholastic announced Thursday that it has acquired the couple's Roc and Roe's Twelve Days of Christmas, a picture story scheduled for release this fall. Illustrated by A.G. Ford, the book is a holiday tale featuring twins Moroccan and Monroe, to whom Carey gave birth in 2011. Scholastic is billing the book as an "adorable" take on a famous Christmas carol. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Toast Burns and blends

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Though not on par with Robert Burns, Anchorman Ron Burgundy's quote, "I love scotch, scotchy, scotch, scotch" is poetry to whisky lovers. Not like scotch needs celebrity endorsement. It's been rocking the spirit world for centuries with a cult of collectors who talk up their inventory numbers with the same relish that a tweeter does followers. And it continues to gain new members.

While single malts (made at a single distillery, in a pot still, from only malted barley) get attention because of big flavours, a scotch producer confessed to me that he felt "the art was really in the blend." Created from a combo of grain and malted whiskies, blends offer a rounded alternative to the aggressiveness of single malts.

Those looking for a tipple to toast Robbie Burns' 255th birthday this weekend might consider The Famous Grouse (750 ml, $28.05 - $29.99), the most popular blended whisky in Scotland. Smooth and lightly malted, its blend includes heavy weight single malts, The Macallan and Highland Park.

PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

This recipe serves eight. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Snack collision: Buffalo wings and nachos

Party food. These two classics team up for big and bold flavour

1. Heat the oven to 400 F. Line a rimmed baking sheet with foil and coat with cooking spray.

2. To make the buffalo sauce, in a medium saucepan over medium heat, combine the RedHot sauce, barbecue sauce and butter. Heat, stirring, until the butter is melted and thoroughly blended. Set aside.

3. Remove all of the meat from the chicken, cut into bite-sized pieces and place in a large bowl. Pour the buffalo sauce over the chicken, then toss well to coat. Set aside.

4. Spread the tortilla chips in an even layer over the prepared baking sheet. Sprinkle the cheddar cheese evenly over the chips. Using tongs or a fork, spread the chicken evenly over the cheese and chips.

5. In a small bowl, toss together the Mexican-style cheese and the blue cheese, then sprinkle evenly over the chicken. Top with the olives and scallions. Bake for 10 to 15 minutes, or until the cheese is melted and just starting to brown. Serve with salsa and sour cream.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Ingredients

- 1/2 cup Frank's RedHot Sauce
- 1/4 cup barbecue sauce
- 1/4 cup butter
- 2-lb rotisserie chicken
- 7 1/2 oz tortilla chips
- 8 oz each grated cheddar cheese, Mexican-style shredded cheese
- 1/2 cup crumbled blue cheese
- 3.8-oz can sliced black olives
- 1 bunch scallions, sliced
- Salsa, to serve
- Sour cream, to serve

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Notice of Hearing For Permanent Guardianship Order To

Joseph Fischer

Take notice that on the **25th day of February 2014 at 9:30 a.m., at Calgary Family Court, Courtroom #821, 601 – 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta**, a Judicial Dispute Resolution will take place.

Take notice that on the **26th day of February 2014 at 2:00 p.m., at Calgary Family Court, Courtroom #1205, 601 – 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta**, a hearing will take place.

Take notice that on the **4th day of April 2014 at 9:30 a.m., at Calgary Family Court, Courtroom #1208, 601 – 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta**, a Pre-Trial Conference will take place.

Take notice that on the **5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 12th, and 13th days of May 2014 at 9:30 a.m., at Calgary Family Court, Courtroom #1206, 601 – 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta**, a Trial will take place.

A Director, under the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act will make an application for: **Permanent Guardianship Order;** of your child born on **January 7, 2004.** If you wish to speak to this matter in court, you MUST appear in court on this date. You do have the right to be represented by a lawyer. If you do not attend in person or by a lawyer, an Order may be made in your absence and the Judge may make a different Order than the one being applied for by the Director. You will be bound by any Order the Judge makes.

You do have the right to appeal the Order within 30 days from the date the Order is made.

Contact: Diane Charlebois; Jackie Ellice; Daniella Eggink
Calgary and Area Child and Family Services Authority
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Taste of opera

On Friday, Jan. 24, the Arrata Opera House (located at 1315 7th St. SW) is hosting A Taste of Opera. For $20, you'll have the opportunity to preview what's in store for Calgary Opera this year. Following the performance, there will be a sampling of local food and wine inspired by the region of the opera. You'll be delighted to learn more about the great composer Richard Wagner and the play The Flying Dutchman. calgaryopera.com

Kitchen

From Jan. 24 to 26, the ultra creative Gob Squad theatre company will entertain you as they try to recreate Andy Warhol's studio that was made infamous during the '60s. Known for its many celebrities, artists and misfits of the day, the Factory played backdrop for many Warhol films that had no real actors and no rehearsed lines. The Gob Squad will deliver an interesting performance as they re-enact scenes from Warhol's classic film Kitchen. All the fun takes place at the #1 Royal Canadian Legion. hprodeo.ca

On tomorrow

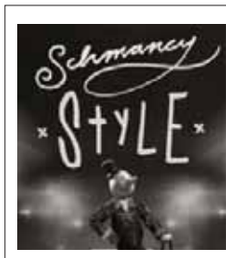
The Walrus Talks is an organization known for starting thought-provoking conversations on subjects that are of great importance to Canadians. Come and hear what some of the brightest minds and opinion leaders have to say about the topics of tomorrow. You'll hear from a group of award-winning authors, popular TV personalities and brilliant mobile app developers. Don't miss Les Stroud from Survivorman and Shad. $25, 7 p.m. on Jan. 28 at Jack Singer Concert Hall. 403-294-9494.

Josh Ritter

On Wednesday, Josh Ritter is playing at Knox United Church (506 4th St. SW). Well-known for playing with the Royal City Band, Ritter has a big talent for narrative. He's recorded seven studio albums, including his most recent, The Beast in its Track. He was first noticed when one of his tracks was picked up by the HBO series Six Feet Under. Tickets are $46 and show begins at 8 p.m. joshritter.com.

Air Miles Dinner

On Jan. 30, Market Restaurant is hosting a dinner for Air Miles cardholders. Chef Dave Bohati will be whipping up five courses, each focusing on a different sense: sight, taste, touch, sound and smell. To finish off this interesting meal, there will be a sixth course served to enjoy with all your senses. To purchase tickets, you can use the Air Miles website. Tickets are $150 or 1375 Air Miles. airmiles.ca (Rewards). Dinner starts at 7 p.m.



Fancy

It's time to get fancy for the Schmancy Style show, which is taking place at Belgo Brasserie (501 8th Ave. SW) on Jan. 30. In anticipation of the annual Schmancy Gala happening at the Glenbow on Feb. 22, Belgo is offering a glamorous night of fashion inspiration to ensure guests attending the gala know what to wear. This year's theme is Worn to be Wild: The Black Leather Jacket. Tickets are $35. glenbow.org.

Credit Card Authorization Assistant

Metro's Finance Department is looking for a Credit Card Authorization Assistant to join the Credit & Collections team. Reporting to the Credit & Collections Manager, the successful candidate will be responsible for ensuring that all payments made to Metro are correctly received and reported.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Credit cards processing for Amex, MasterCard and Visa in Payfirma system for prepay ads
- Obtain credit card information from customers via telephone and Fax to process the cards
- Comply to PCI compliance rules
- Responsible to approve or Cancel prepay orders based on payment received 36 hrs prior to ad run date for western markets
- Follow up on customers prepay account outstanding with sales reps

REQUIREMENTS OF THE POSITION:

- 2 to 3 years related experience
- Experience in working in web based programs
- Comprehensive knowledge of Microsoft Office, Excel and Word
- Customer Service Skills
- Ability to multi-task and work in a fast paced environment
- Detail oriented
- Flexible, independent, creative, efficient, entrepreneurial spirited rebel preferred

If you think you have what it takes for this position, send your resume and cover letter to hr@metronews.ca no later than January 31st, 2014. PLEASE QUOTE: "Credit Card Authorization Assistant" in the subject line. We would like to thank all applicants for their interest in this position; however, only those considered for an interview will be contacted. All submissions will be treated as confidential.

metro

Graham Auctions

HOME IMPROVEMENT, HOUSEHOLD GOODS, ELECTRONICS, NEW FURNITURE & VEHICLE SALE

SATURDAY JANUARY 25th, 2014 9AM START ON MISC & 12:30 FOR VEHICLES

HOME IMPROVEMENT PREGA ARTIFICIAL GRASS, NEOTILE URBAN GROOVE, NEO COMPOSITE DECK TILES, GOLDEN SELECT CLICK LAMINATE FLOORING, GOLDEN SELECT GLASS MOSAIC WALL TILE, NEO SPLASH STAINLESS STEEL TILE, GOLDEN SELECT CLICK VINYL TILE, NEO SPLASH GLASS AND STONE FUSION TILE, GOLDEN SELECT GLASS AND STONE MOSAIC WALL TILES, RETAINING WALL STONE, PATIO STONE, DECORATIVE STONE, GRANITE, CULTURED MARBLE, DRYWALL IN VARIOUS SIZES, LYNDEN DOOR REVERSIBLE KNOCK DOWN DOORS, LYNDEN DOOR BI-FOLD DOORS, BASEBOARD TRIM AND MOULDING, ARTIFICIAL QUALITY STONE, POULIN PRO SNOW THROWERS, 10,000 LB ELECTRIC WINCH, 2 TONNE HYDRAULIC FLOOR JACK, 33 DRAWER INDUSTRIAL MECHANICS TOOLCHEST, 50 TONNE AIR HYDRAULIC HAND JACK, 1" AIR IMPACT WRENCH, MIG 100 WELDER, 10 TONNE HYDRAULIC BODY FRAME AIR KIT, QUARTZ TUBE PATIO HEATERS WITH ATTACHED TABLE, BLACK HOMACK 27" 3 PIECE PROFESSIONAL TOOLCHEST, ATLANTIS SINGLE AND TWIN STAINLESS STEEL KITCHEN SINKS, WR BROCK LAVATORY FAUCET, CHAMPION 2000 WATT GENERATORS, KARCHER GASOLINE PRESSURE WASHERS, SNAP-ON 20 GALLON AIR COMPRESSORS, SNAP-ON HEAVY DUTY STORAGE RACKS, STANLEY WET/DRY SHOP VAC'S, ASSORTED HAND TOOLS, MOTOR TREND LED SPOTLIGHTS, BOOSTER CABLES, OUTDOOR EXTENSION CORDS, AND MUCH MORE…

HOUSEHOLD GOODS IROBOT ROOMBA ROBOTIC VACUUM, FRIGIDAIRE WHITE REFRIGERATOR, LOREX COMPLETE SURVEILLANCE CAMERA SYSTEM, POWER HEAT INFRA RED QUARTZ HEATERS, VIVA HIDDEN BOTTLE WATER COOLERS, SAMSONITE HARDSHELL ROLLING LUGGAGE, DANBY PREMIER HUMIDIFIER, PUREGUARDIAN HUMIDIFIER, WINDOW COVERINGS, ASSORTED MICROWAVES, PLUSH TOWEL SETS, PLUSH BLANKETS, NATURAL PILLOWS, TRANQUIL NIGHTS BED SETS, NAUTICA PILLOWS, KITCHEN & LAUNDRY SUPPLIES, ASSORTED GROCERIES, NEW BOOKS, DINNERWARE SETS OF MIKASA, CHELSEA, AURORA & ELITE STONEWARE, 10 PIECE STAINLESS STEEL COOKWARE SET'S, KEURIG SINGLE CUP COFFEE MAKER, RIEDEL WINE GLASSES, WARING PRO PROFESSIONAL WINE CENTER, RUBBERMAID FOOD STORAGE CONTAINERS, BEVERAGE SETS, SNO-STORM BODY BOARDS, GEORGE WASHBURN ACOUSTIC GUITAR, CELESTRON COMETRON 114AZ TELESCOPE, RL-PRO REMOTE CONTROL CARS, COLLECTOR BARBIE SETS, LARGE SELECTION OF PERSONAL CARE TOILETRIES, NEW CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR FROM: PARADOX,TRUE NORTH,AVIA,NIKE, ADIDAS, PUMA, DIESEL, MARMOT, CALVIN KLEIN, LACOSTE, NORTH FACE, LADY HATHAWAY, BLUE HARBOR, TRUE NORTH, WINTER BOOTS & MORE…

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HEAVY LIFTING

GMC TRUCKS AND WAGONS HAVE OWN STYLE AND ATTITUDE

SIERRA — $28,200

Physically square, but very cool at the same time, is the tough-looking GMC line of tall wagons and trucks. Nope, there are no cars in this lineup at all.

That's better left to Chevrolet so that GMC can concentrate on the heavy lifting. For 2014, the GMC Sierra and the related Chevy Silverado each continue with their own style and attitude, although the "attitude" part is hard to define, exactly.

While Chevrolet positions the Silverado as a kind of middle-ground pickup for both work and play, in the Sierra's case those virtues are distinctly separated. More basic GMC models accentuate the "Professional Grade" tag and the pitch is directed at buyers who rely on their pickups to earn a living.

At the opposite end of the scale is the Sierra Denali sub-brand that places a much higher value on coddling content. In either case, the Sierra's primary identification point can be spotted in your rear-view mirror.

The entire front end, including grille, headlights, bumper and in-your-face GMC logo, are more massive than before and in total make a bolder statement than the Silverado does. Some minor sheet metal differences exist between the Chevy and the GMC, but that's about it.

Even the interiors of the two pickups share the same basic dash, control panel and available touchscreen communications centre that are a masterstroke of efficient legibility.

Of course, as you scale the trim-level ladder, the appointments become more luxurious and the cabin resembles something approaching a high-end limo, especially in the four-door crew-cab models. Improvements in aerodynamics, insulation and weather sealing help shut out intrusive noises.

YUKON — $51,200

BASE PRICES (INCLUDING DESTINATION)

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL DEALER FOR THE MOST CURRENT PRICES IN YOUR AREA.

ACADIA: MID-SIZE SUV — $38,100
SIERRA: FULL-SIZE PICKUP — $28,200
SIERRA HD: FULL-SIZE PICKUP — $37,800
TERRAIN: COMPACT SUV — $29,900
YUKON: FULL-SIZE SUV — $51,200

Just as a greater use of aluminum in fabricating various body panels and suspension parts has kept the Sierra's weight in check, the three new engines also benefit. All use aluminum cylinder blocks and incorporate direct injection, whereby fuel is force fed into the cylinders under high pressure.

There is also continuously variable valve timing for improved low- and high-speed performance, while half the cylinders in V8 engines will automatically shut down in steady-state cruise conditions to save fuel. The V6 engine also runs on four cylinders in such situations.

Although the rest of the GMC lineup largely carries over, there is one special note that concerns the Acadia tall wagon's new centre airbag. While airbags are generally meant to protect occupants from impact with the inside of the vehicle, the new centre airbag protects them from impacts with each other. In the event of a side impact, the centre airbag deploys to keep the front passenger and the driver from colliding. It's an ingenious invention that should prevent many head injuries and save lives. *– Wheelbase Media*

ACADIA — $38,100

TERRAIN — $29,900

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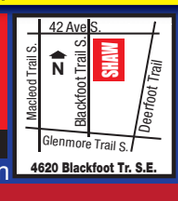

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COMBINING SAFETY AND VALUE

FORESTER — $27,650

Through good times and bad, Subaru is a constant success story because it blends safety and value with the security of all-wheel-drive.

Yes, that sounds like a jingle, but there's no other way to explain the brand's popularity.

Up for its clockwork redesign is the Forester tall wagon. It sits on a new platform that modestly stretches the distance between the front and rear wheels for a bit more rear leg room, while a taller roofline and lower load floor add somewhat more cargo volume with the split-folding rear seat folded flat.

The carryover 2.5-litre, four-cylinder engine (installed in 2.5i models) generates 170 horsepower and 174 pound-feet of torque. For added punch, the 2.0XT uses a turbocharged version of the 2.0 that's found in the BRZ sports coupe, rated at 250 horsepower and 258 pound-feet of torque.

The 2.5i has a six-speed manual transmission, or a continuously variable (CVT) option. The 2.0XT only comes with the CVT, but it has what Subaru calls its "engine performance management system" with Intelligent, Sport and Sport Sharp settings.

In Sport mode, the throttle becomes more responsive and the steering-column-mounted paddle shifters mimic the action of a six-speed transmission. Throttle response is further heightened in Sport Sharp mode, but the CVT provides eight "speeds" to play with. This is possible because the CVT actually has no set ratios and can be programmed to act differently at different times.

WRX — $34,100

Standard on the 2.0XT and available on the 2.5i with the CVT is Subaru's X-Mode control. When activated at speeds below 20 km/h, the system adds greater control on slippery surfaces by shifting torque specifically to the wheels with grip, either front to back or side to side.

For Canada, the trim levels and names depend on the engine chosen, but all Foresters arrive reasonably well equipped. The top model is the "Limited EyeSight" that comes with a big Harman/Kardon audio package and, of course, the EyeSight collision-avoidance technology that, among other things, can bring the Forester to a stop if the system detects an imminent crash. For 2014, EyeSight sees more availability across the line. In the case of Legacy and Outback, it's available on more than just the top models.

TRIBECA — $40,650

Unique to the XV Crosstrek for 2014 is a hybrid version that uses the same CVT as the gasoline model only with an electric motor that's worth 13.4 horsepower and 48 pound-feet of torque. This is very much a "mild" hybrid system as the electric motor is used only when accelerating from rest. Hybrid fuel consumption is rated at 6.9 l/100 km in the city, compared with 8.2 for the gas-only model with the CVT.

– Wheelbase Media

LEGACY — $25,150

IMPREZA SEDAN — $21,600

OUTBACK — $30,100

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INCLUDING DESTINATION

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FORESTER: MID-SIZE SUV — $27,650
IMPREZA: COMPACT SEDAN/WAGON — $21,600
LEGACY: MID-SIZED SEDAN — $25,150
OUTBACK: MID-SIZED WAGON — $30,100
TRIBECA: MID-SIZE SUV — $40,650
WRX: COMPACT SEDAN/WAGON — $34,100
WRX STI: COMPACT SEDAN/WAGON — $39,800
XV CROSSTREK: COMPACT TALL WAGON — $26,150; HYBRID — $31,650

IMPREZA WAGON — $21,600

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RAM HD — $43,200

TAKE A RIDE ON A FUEL-EFFICIENT RAM

The gap is so tight between the Big Three trucks — and tensions so high — that anything new and different has to be seen as a significant marketing edge.

The redesigned-for-2013 Ram 1500 was the first to offer an eight-speed automatic transmission (with a fancy dash dial for shifting) and also touted best-in-class fuel economy. For 2014, Ram has stolen a bit of GM's Silverado/Sierra thunder by offering yet another category first — a diesel engine option.

Fuel economy has always been an issue with trucks and that was partially addressed when Chrysler's ever-popular 3.6-litre V6 found its way into the engine bay. With 305 horsepower and 11.4 l/100 km in the city and 7.8 on the highway, it was and is a sweet combination.

Its eight-speed automatic transmission also helped and can now be attached to the 395-horsepower 5.7-litre "Hemi" V8. The engine can shut down four of its eight cylinders when not needed, such as at under light-load conditions or when heading downhill.

BASE PRICES INCLUDING DESTINATION

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL DEALER FOR THE MOST CURRENT PRICES IN YOUR AREA.
RAM 1500: FULL-SIZE PICKUP — $28,700
RAM HD: FULL-SIZE HEAVY-DUTY ONE- AND THREE-QUARTER PICKUPS — $43,200

The newly optional 3.0-litre "EcoDiesel" turbo-diesel makes 240 horsepower and 420 pound-feet of torque; with the eight-speed automatic, it can tow up to 7,200 pounds, which is the same as the gas V6.

Rams get further fuel-reduction assistance in the form of stop-start technology that turns off the engine at rest, then instantly fires it up again once the brake pedal is released. Electric power steering cuts parasitic power losses. Optional is an air suspension with load levelling and five height settings, one of which lowers the

RAM 1500 — $28,700

body at highway speeds by 1.5 centimetres to cut the wind a bit better. Finally, a "thermal management system" is designed to quickly get the Ram's crankcase oil and other fluids up to operational temperatures, which assists in conserving gas.

As for body styles, regular cab models are available with a six-foot, four-inch box, or an eight-footer, while four-door Quad Cabs are attached to the shorter box only. The Ram Crew gets you a five-foot, seven-inch bed, or the six-foot, four-inch option. There are also available locking storage compartments built into the rear fenders that can each hold up to 120 beer/Coke/Pepsi cans that can be specified with centrally controlled power locks.

When it comes to four-wheel-drive, buyers can choose between a part-time system and an on-demand setup that automatically engages when road conditions warrant.

Other neat touches for 2014 include a capless fuel-filler system that will parallel park the "Beast" into incredibly tight spots.

By contrast, the Ram HD might not be able to get into incredibly tight spots, but it can sure get you out of a jam with up to 850 pound-feet of diesel torque. A new addition for 2014 is the optional 6.4-litre gasoline V8. Better known as the 392 Hemi, it's previously an SRT exclusive in the car line. Here, it's optional in both the 2500 and 3500, delivering 410 horses and 429 pound-feet of torque. Surprisingly, that's only slightly more than the 383-horsepower 5.7-litre V8 with its 400-pound feet of torque.

– Wheelbase Media

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2012 NISSAN PATHFINDER LE	STK#P1964	WAS $ 28,995	NOW $22,888
2013 CHRYSLER T&C TOURING DVD	STK#P1937	WAS $ 29,995	NOW $24,888
2012 GMC SIERRA 1500 4X4 SLE	STK#P1958	WAS $ 29,995	NOW $25,888
2013 FORD FLEX SEL LEATHER	STK#P1962	WAS $ 29,995	NOW $26,888
2013 FORD FLEX LIMITED	STK#PC2629	WAS $ 35,995	NOW $31,888
2013 DODGE DURANGO CREW	STK#P1949	WAS $ 41,995	NOW $36,888
2012 RAM 1500 CREW LARAMIE 4X4	STK#P1965	WAS $ 42,995	NOW $38,888
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TUNDRA IS PLENTY TOUGH ENOUGH

Although Toyota hasn't sold as many of its full-size Tundras as it likely wanted to, that doesn't mean it has given up. In fact, the Tundra has been given a mid-cycle facelift that incorporates a new hood and reprofiled grille, along with a three-piece lower bumper and squared-off fenders and wheel wells.

The bed sides and the cargo area itself are new as is the tailgate. However, the overall profile hasn't changed: Tundras continue to be available in your choice of regular cab, extended-length Double Cab and four-door CrewMax with its extra-sized rear doors.

The 310-horsepower, 4.6-litre V8 and top-tuned 381-horsepower 5.7 V8 are basically untouched and both use six-speed automatic transmissions. Four-wheel-drive is optional, of course.

Inside, the roomy cabin features several improvements to make life easier for the driver, including moving the HVAC and audio controls six centimetres closer. New seats feature better ventilation and can also travel more. Base regular-cab models actually come fairly well-equipped with air conditioning and a 6.1-inch (15.5-centimetre) touchscreen display with Bluetooth short-range wireless networking and a backup camera.

Adding more doors to the cab automatically gets you more, although many of those standard features can be added to regular cab models by choosing the SR5 Package and the SR5 Plus Package.

There isn't enough room here to discuss the 10 models and 30 available configurations, but noteworthy is the Platinum that includes perforated diamond-pleated leather seats and instrument panel, along with plenty of chrome touches, a 12-speaker JBL-brand touchscreen audio system, navigation and heated and cooled seats.

The new Platinum 1794 Edition is Toyota's take on Ford's King Ranch or Ram's Laramie Longhorn. It's billed as a tribute to the ranch, founded in the year 1794, where the Tundra plant is located in Texas. You get saddle-brown leather touches with suede inserts, and similar luxury equipment to the Platinum. Both the Platinum and Platinum 1794 are 4x4 machines available only in the four-door CrewMax cab configuration.

For a slightly angrier look, you have to at least check out the updated 4Runner. To make it a little easier to spot, it features a slightly redesigned snout with more angular projector beam headlights with smoked lenses, and a huge lower grille and bumper.

TUNDRA — $28,450

HIGHLANDER — $33,400

BASE PRICES (INCLUDING DESTINATION)

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL DEALER FOR THE MOST CURRENT PRICES IN YOUR AREA.
4RUNNER: MID-SIZED SUV — $39,500
FJ CRUISER: MID-SIZED SUV — $35,200
HIGHLANDER: MID-SIZED SUV — $33,400;
HYBRID — $43,500
RAV4: COMPACT SUV — $25,500
SEQUOIA: FULL-SIZE SUV — $54,500
TACOMA: COMPACT PICKUP — $22,350
TUNDRA: FULL-SIZE PICKUP — $28,450

SEQUOIA — $54,500

The redesigned 2014 Highlander is far less boxy and boring than before. The overall size is similar to that of the outgoing wagon, but a nearly three-inch extension in overall length and a bit more width has helped improve interior packaging to the point where rear stowage space behind the third row has increased by a claimed 34 per cent.

Up front, the styling is equally pleasing as well as practical with an enlarged floor-console bin for swallowing laptop computers, large purses and the like. The new dashboard and control panel are swathed in soft-touch materials and the gauge cluster has also been given a complete updating.

Mechanically, the Highlander is mostly a repeat of the outgoing model, although the previous four-cylinder is gone. This makes the 270-horse V6 standard whether you select front- or all-wheel-drive. A new six-speed automatic is the sole transmission, replacing the former five-speed automatic.

4RUNNER — $39,500

FJ CRUISER — $35,200

RAV4 — $25,500

TACOMA — $22,350

Back again to save the day by saving fuel is the Highlander Hybrid that uses a 3.5-litre V6 working with electric motors to produce a combined 280 horsepower.

– Wheelbase Media

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T3 – WHITE

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4.99% | OAC 96

T1 – SILVER – ACCESS CAB

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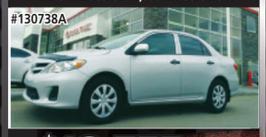

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5dr HB Auto LE

$8,875 OR $75 b/w

2005 TOYOTA 4RUNNER
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2007 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER HYBRID
4WD LIMITED

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5dr LE 7-Pass ALL WHEEL DRIVE

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4WD 4dr V6 CERTIFIED 89,000KM

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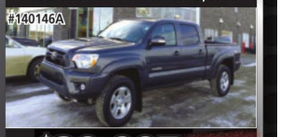
2012 TOYOTA TUNDRA
4WD Crewmax 146" 5.7L SR5

$31,565 OR $245 b/w

2014 TOYOTA TACOMA
4WD Double Cab V6 AT Certified 2,500KM



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SIMPLY SCION

tC — $23,000

What's difficult to figure out is whether Scion is a Toyota division of like cars, or unlike cars.

Generally devoid of a uniform look, it appears as though the tC coupe wants to be in the "like" category, at least with the hot-looking and performing rear-wheel-drive Scion FR-S.

The tC now has new squintier headlights and a larger, dark grey grille that expands as it heads south. There is also a new hood and a new 18-inch wheel design. The rear end is less slavish to the FR-S, but does get new taillights, bumper cover and lower fascia.

Thankfully, the revisions still leave buyers with plenty of freedom to make dealer-supplied (and warranted) modifications such as different wheels, spoilers and even a wide-body kit.

Under the hood there's still a 2.5-litre, four-cylinder engine that generates 180 horsepower and 173 pound-feet of torque, while the FR-S's 2.0-litre, four-cylinder makes 200. Six-speed transmissions, either manual or optional automatics, handle the shifting duties for the tC.

Still in play is Scion's philosophy of offering well-equipped cars in one trim level that can then be customized by their owners, so the standard-equipment list includes air conditioning, cruise control, 18-inch alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, a power dual-pane moonroof, power windows, locks and mirrors.

The 2014 model does do a few things differently, though, including some softer materials used in places where you will appreciate them, and a new standard 15-centimetre display-audio system that you will find elsewhere in the Scion line.

The tC also comes with the requisite six airbags plus a driver's knee airbag. With the rear seat (which actually reclines up to 45 degrees) and the front passenger seat folded flat, the hatchback-accessible stowage area can swallow objects up to eight feet in length. That's impressive value for a car that rings in at dollar-stretching $22,850, including destination and free basic maintenance at the 8,000- and 16,000-kilometre intervals. It's those little extras that make the range of Toyota's junior-division cars so popular.

– Wheelbase Media

FR-S — $27,950

BASE PRICES (INCLUDING DESTINATION)

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FR-S: TWO-DOOR COMPACT — $27,950
IQ: TWO-DOOR SUBCOMPACT — $18,600
TC: SUBCOMPACT COUPE — $23,000
XB: SUBCOMPACT WAGON — $20,200
XD: SUBCOMPACT HATCHBACK — $19,300

xB — $20,200

xD — $19,300

IQ — $18,600

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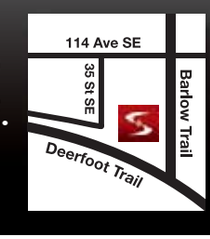

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BIG STYLE

MORE ROOM AND NEW ATTITUDE FOR THE LEXUS IS

IS 250 — $37,300

With a pinched-cheek grille on pretty much every model now, it was finally time to bring in one of the older cars for a gorgeous top-to-bottom redo that's in line with a whole new performance attitude.

Lexus is moving away from strictly cushy vehicles to put it more in line with Mercedes-Benz and BMW. The IS series of sedans and "C"-designated convertibles do a respectable job baiting BMW 3-series, Audi A4 and Mercedes-Benz C-Class fans into switching teams.

Toyota's premium division has learned plenty from the previous two IS generations and now appears to be an even stronger contender with the new-for-2014 version IS sedan.

In front, the car adopts a hunkered-down stance, aided by what Lexus calls its "spindle" grille. With its 20 per cent stiffer platform, the IS has grown nearly nine centimetres in length with 6.9 more centimetres between the front and rear wheels, while width and height increase only slightly. Rear-seat sedan riders benefit with a bit more leg and hip room, which was a drawback for the previous generation.

Of note is that the ISC convertible and the high-performance, V8-powered ISF are still based on the 2013 platform.

Even though the IS 250 and 350 are on a new platform, they still retain their previous engines. That means a 204-horsepower, 2.5-litre V6 for the IS 250, while the IS 350 continues with 306 horsepower from its 3.5-litre V6.

The IS has Drive Mode Select throttle and transmission programming, with Eco, Normal and Sport S modes for rear-wheel-drive models, plus a Snow mode for AWD-equipped cars.

But the real "sport" in the IS group is the BMW M3-rivalling IS F that shows off the same aggressive posture as before with unique 19-inch wheels (wider in back) and with its high-output 416-horsepower V8 and eight-speed automatic intact.

ES 350 — $39,750

GS 350 — $51,900

IS-F — $73,700

LS 600 — $127,000

Other Lexus models are also working on their sporty image for 2014. Both the base GS sedan and the F Sport now feature new eight-speed automatic transmissions borrowed from the LS that blips the throttle for smoother downshifts (called rev matching). However, an extra level on the standard driver-selectable operating mode has been added that firms up the suspension and sharpens the steering for an overall sportier feel.

You wouldn't think that a "sporty" tall wagon would be in the cards, but Lexus has put together a new F Sport that attempts to make the RX exciting to drive. It features a more controlled suspension, 19-inch wheels, an eight-speed automatic transmission (normal RX's get six-speeds) with paddle shifters and more supportive seats. Visually, like with other F Sport models, it gets its own aggressive grille and lower bumper, along with black leather with white stitching seat covers.

– Wheelbase Media

RX 350 — $46,150

BASE PRICES INCLUDING DESTINATION

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL DEALER FOR THE MOST CURRENT PRICES IN YOUR AREA.
CT 200H: FOUR-DOOR HATCHBACK HYBRID — $31,450
ES 350: MID-SIZE SEDAN — $39,750
GS 350: MID-SIZE SEDAN — $51,900
GX 460: FULL-SIZE SUV — $58,900
IS 250: COMPACT SEDAN — $37,300
IS-F: QUICK-AND-FAST COMPACT SEDAN — $73,700
LS 460: FULL-SIZE SEDAN — $84,650
LS 600H L: FULL-SIZE SEDAN — $127,000
LX 570: FULL-SIZE SPORT UTILITY — $95,450
RX 350: MID-SIZE SUV — $46,150
RX 450H: MID-SIZE SUV — $63,600

CT 200H — $31,450

LS 460 — $84,650

GX 460 — $58,900

LX 570 — $95,450

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F-TYPE — $78,400

FAST AND BEAUTIFUL

Now this is the Jaguar we like — a company that builds fast and beautiful cars. There was certainly a risk in building a lower-priced model, but rest assured the new F-Type is not going down in flames like the X-Type did a few years back.

The F-Type might be a direct decedent of the E-Type from the 1960s, but this car makes you forget all about the past, and even the present, of Jaguar.

Four decades following the launch of Jaguar's iconic E-Type sports car, Jaguar is introducing a brand new roadster. The result isn't E-Type sleek, but its shape is more purposeful ... in a Teutonic sort of way. There is even an active rear spoiler of a type pioneered by Porsche and Mercedes-Benz (and others) that deploys once the F-Type has reached 100 km/h, then retracts once the roadster's speed drops below 65. The cloth top returns to its latched and locked position in 12 seconds while the vehicle is travelling up to 50 km/h, so you don't have to come to a complete stop in the middle of traffic or in the middle of a downpour.

One neat trick is a set of air vents atop the multi-function touchscreen infotainment unit that pop up when manually activated or whenever the climate system calls for additional heating or cooling. The seats are based on those installed in the high-performance (and larger) Jaguar XKR-S model and actually don't require the car's occupants to be overly svelte to squeeze between the bolsters.

XJR —$90,400

Base F-Types are fitted with a supercharged 3.0-litre V6 (a derivative of Jaguar's 5.0-litre V8 and an engine that's also used in the XJ and XF sedans) that makes a respectable 340 horsepower. Jaguar claims it will push the F-Type to 60 mph (96 km/h) in 5.1 seconds. The F-Type S gets a 380-horsepower version of the 3.0 that cuts that time to 4.8 seconds. The F-Type V8S has a supercharged 5.0-litre V8 that delivers 495 horsepower and zero-to-60-mph sprints in a mere 4.2 seconds.

Each engine gets an eight-speed automatic transmission and redundant steering-wheel-located paddles. The transmission also signals the engine to "blip" the throttle (called rev matching) for smoother transitions between gears when downshifting. Knowing that sports car owners love those seductive underhood sounds, Jaguar offers an optional active exhaust system that increases the volume as the revs increase and directs the melody into the cabin.

XKR-S GT — $106,000

If the sound of a four-cylinder XF luxury sedan didn't seem very "luxury" to anyone, that's OK because the 240-horsepower Ford engine is not on the table for 2014 (it's saved for Jag buyers south of the border). Neither is rear-wheel-drive, as all Canadian XF's begin with a 340-horsepower supercharged V6 and all-wheel-drive for a good mix of fuel economy and stoplight performance.

However, if nothing less than a supercharged V8 will suffice, the 510-horsepower version in the XFR returns unaltered for 2014.

What does change is the new ultra-performance variant, the XFR-S, which adds the most dramatic body mods this side of a Subaru STI, with a rear wing to match. The car uses the same 550-horse version of the 5.0-litre V8 found in the new XJR and shares the eight-speed automatic transmission found in every other XJ. It's the closest thing Jaguar has to a four-door track car, although there will only be 100 produced.

– Wheelbase Media

XFR — $62,800

BASE PRICES INCLUDING DESTINATION

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL DEALER FOR THE MOST CURRENT PRICES IN YOUR AREA.
F-TYPE: MID-SIZE CONVERTIBLE — $78,400
XF: FULL-SIZED SEDAN — $62,800
XJ: FULL-SIZED SEDAN —$90,400
XK: TWO-DOOR COUPE/ROADSTER — $100,000; $106,000 (ROADSTER)

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2012 XJL	STK#JN231 White with Cashew Interior 13599kms	MSRP $102,040	Reduced to	$68,995
2013 XJL AWD	STK#JN233 Lunar Grey with Ivory Interior 7002kms	MSRP $104,890	Reduced to	$84,995

Jaguar F-TYPE

2014 F	STK#JU264 F-Type V6 'S' Ultimate Black Charcoal Interior 5599kms	MSRP $104,770	Reduced to	$89,995

Jaguar XF-AWD

2013 XF	STK#JN258 AWD Portfolio Polaris White Barley Interior 575kms	MSRP $78,740	Reduced to	$65,995
2013 XF	STK#JN269 AWD Rhodium Silver Charcoal Interior 779kms	MSRP $75,240	Reduced to	$62,995

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Also in the works for 2015 is a new small-truck replacement for the Chevy Colorado that departed the lineup at the end of the 2012 model year.

So here's the truck that got the ball rolling. With the all-new Silverado 1500-series, Chevrolet appears to have done its homework and paid close attention to what buyers are looking for to haul and tow their stuff. It looks familiar, but there are more powerful/efficient engines as well as improvements in nearly every other area. In front, the twin-stacked headlights remain, but the grille is now much more prominent and tougher looking.

Behind the tailgate, the handy "Corner Step" bumper has recessed footholds that, combined with built-in handholds inside the box, make accessing the bed much easier. The doors are now "inlaid" into the body, which cuts wind noise at highway speeds.

Inside, the dashboard and control panel that houses the optional eight-inch touch screen are positioned in a tidy pod for easy viewing and all of the oversized knobs and switches are work-glove-friendly and clearly marked.

All body styles — regular, extended Double Cab (now featuring front-hinged rear doors with outside handles) and four-door Crew Cab — are attached to reworked frames with more high-strength steel, extra bracing for stiffness and improved body mounts that help isolate road nose and vibration.

SILVERADO HD — $39,200

BASE PRICES (INCLUDING DESTINATION)

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL DEALER FOR THE MOST CURRENT PRICES IN YOUR AREA.
SILVERADO: FULL-SIZE PICKUP — $27,900
SILVERADO HD: FULL-SIZE PICKUP — $39,200
SUBURBAN: FULL-SIZE SUV — $56,000
TAHOE: FULL-SIZE SUV — $53,300
TRAVERSE: FULL-SIZED SUV — $34,600
TRAX: COMPACT TALL WAGON — $20,000

For 2014, you can order the Crew Cab with a longer 80-inch bed (the standard bed is 68 inches) version and you will get a choice of three new all-aluminum engines. The entry point is a 4.3-litre V6 that has the same displacement as the previous V6, but output has significantly increased to 285 horsepower and 305 pound-feet of torque from 195/260. Optional is a 5.3-litre V8 with 355 horses and 383 pound-feet, up from 315/335.

Later in the model year, they will be joined by an available 6.2-litre V8 rated at 420 horsepower and 440 pound-feet of torque, which shares its parts with the new Corvette V8. All three power plants feature direct fuel injection, which tailors the fuel load for the task at hand. They also have continuously variable valve timing (which allows in more fuel and air depending in the power needs) and cylinder deactivation that cuts off up to half the cylinders in light load and cruise situations. The model range also extends to include a new premium "High Country" model to appeal to wealthy ranchers and city slickers.

The best part about this truck is its highly optioned leather interior that places it above the previous top-of-the-line LTZ. New safety technology is aimed at keeping you out of a crash and not just protecting you in the event of a crash. There's optional blind-spot alert, rear cross traffic alert and both forward collision alert and lane-departure warning.

The 2014 Traverse also gets this tech, but adds a very cool front centre airbag that's designed to keep front occupants from colliding during a side impact.

– Wheelbase Media

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NEW DESIGN ADDS SOME DRAMA

Let's say you're in charge of designing a new Corolla and you mess it up. Where are you going to work on Monday? Moreover, would you ever get another job, ever again?

Yes, there is loads of pressure when it comes to a million-seller Toyota Corolla because, for a smaller car, it has some big numbers to brag about. Like the fact that in 47 years Toyota has sold more than 40 million of them and currently operates 16 factories worldwide that ship Corollas to 154 countries.

The all-new 11th-generation North American version comes on strong with a bit more style — especially from the windshield forward — than its broad base of customers are used to seeing. Nothing too radical, mind you, but just enough design drama to create some politely muffled ooh's and ah's.

Where the new Corolla shines, however, is in passenger accommodations and comfort. The car has grown about four inches in overall length and in distance between the front and rear wheels. In addition, a slightly wider cabin also contributes to more passenger space. Interior styling has also improved, but in a conservative way that differs from more daring competitors.

Likewise, engine choices eschew anything performance-related. A 132-horsepower, four-cylinder carries over from the previous generation and is connected to a six-speed manual transmission for the base CE and the S. A four-speed automatic transmission is optional on the CE, while a new continuously variable unit (CVT) is optional for S and standard for LE and LE ECO.

To reduce that "rubber-band" sensation of varying engine speed that's prevalent with many CVT applications, Toyota's engineers added seven artificial shift points that function automatically (or can be controlled through available steering-column-mounted paddle shifters) to simulate the action of a regular automatic transmission.

The LE ECO is also equipped with a 140-horsepower version of the 1.8 that's rated at 6.5 l/100 km on the highway and 4.6 in the city, compared to the base model's 6.9/5.2 rating with the CVT.

Aside from a more efficient engine with special variable valve timing, those figures are achieved with the help of underbody panels that improve the car's aerodynamics (and reduce highway-speed fuel consumption).

As before, entry-level Corollas don't come with air conditioning; that's saved for the LE and the S. The LE ECO gets climate control. All models comes with steel wheels as standard, with aluminum wheels available only as an option.

Changes in the rest of the car line are fairly minor. Avalon is still blushing from compliments over the 2013 full-on redesign. The styling alone actually looks more youthful than the Camry from which it was spawned. Its crisp lines reflect the car's slightly more diminutive dimensions — six centimetres shorter a bit narrower and not quite as tall — than the outgoing model. The Avalon also weighs about 55 kilograms pounds less than the old 2012 model as a result. Unchanged is the 268-horsepower, 3.5-litre V6, although Toyota tweaked the engine and installed an updated six-speed transaxle for improved fuel economy (9.9 city/6.4 highway versus 12.0/7.8). *– Wheelbase Media*

COROLLA — $17,600

PRIUS — $27,700

CAMRY — $25,300

VENZA — $30,300

AVALON — $37,600

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CAMRY: MID-SIZED SEDAN — $25,300; HYBRID — $29,350
COROLLA: COMPACT SEDAN — $17,600
MATRIX: COMPACT WAGON — $18,400
PRIUS: COMPACT SEDAN — $27,700
PRIUS PLUG-IN: COMPACT SEDAN — $37,300
PRIUS C: COMPACT HATCHBACK — $22,000
SIENNA: MINIVAN — $30,750
VENZA: MID-SIZED WAGON — $30,300
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SIENNA — $30,750

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RANGE ROVER SPORT — $75,500

SPORTING A NEW LOOK

How has Land Rover dealt with several years of trying times and increasing fuel-economy concerns? Like many other companies — putting their vehicles on diets and cutting engine size.

After introducing the Evoque for 2012 and the full-size eponymous Range Rover for 2013, the company is moving quickly to fill out the rest of the line. That means the 2014 Range Rover Sport was next to receive some serious attention.

This time around, it shares an all-aluminum platform with the Range Rover rather than the bulky steel one under the LR4. In the process, it loses more than 350 kilograms over the previous generation. The distance between the front and rear wheels has been stretched by 17.5 centimetres, which aims to provide significantly more space inside the cabin, while overall length is up by seven centimetres.

However, the Sport retains its penultimate spot in the lineup by being about 15 centimetres shorter and a little more than five centimetres lower than the Range Rover. Its more athletic fast-back body, wide stance and rubber-band tires give the impression of a vehicle designed to never explore the rough stuff, but the Sport is more than capable of handling most anything you can throw at it.

Under the reshaped hood you have a choice of two engine options also shared with the Range Rover — the base 3.0-litre supercharged V6 has 340 horsepower, which is slightly less than the old 375-horsepower 5.0-litre V8, although thanks to the new model's crash diet it's significantly quicker to 60 mph (96 km/h) and consumes far less fuel. The optional supercharged 5.0-litre V8, which is standard in the Supercharged and Autobiography series, now produces 550 horsepower instead of 510. Both use eight-speed automatic transmissions.

EVOQUE — $48,500

RANGE ROVER — $116,500

LR4 — $60,000

For your base $75,500 entry fee, including destination charges, the SE includes a rather lengthy list of features and just about everything from Land Rover's bag of off-road tricks. The HSE gets a few extras such as bigger wheels, perforated leather seats and an upgraded 900-watt Meridian-brand audio system. The Supercharged model includes the HSE content as well as items specific to it.

To satisfy the "sport" end of the equation, the Range Rover Sport can be ordered with a "dynamic response" system (V8 models) that keeps the vehicle flatter when cornering, which plants the weight more evenly amongst the high-speed-rated tires. The system can also now send torque to any wheel that needs it within a fraction of a second, meaning a much more neutral feel when hustling on-road.

The Sport really is a Sport and would leave most similar hot rod SUVs in the dust, Porsche Cayenne included. There are also plenty of new and improved off-road technologies, such as hill-start assist and gradient acceleration control, along with two available transfer cases that help negotiate steep and severe slopes off-road, should you want to subject your investment to tree branches, sharp rocks and (gasp!) mud.

At the other end of the spectrum, the dramatic Autobiography model offers just about any luxurious detail possible. One of the most impressive options is the 1,700-watt 23-speaker Meridian "reference" audio system that really can go to 11.

While the LR2, LR4 and Range Rover models are essentially unchanged for 2014, the gorgeous little Evoque came in for some mechanical changes. The 240-horsepower, 2.0-litre turbocharged four-cylinder engine was previously rated at 10.9 l/100 km in the city and 6.9 highway with the six-speed, but that should improve with the new nine-speed automatic that replaces the six-speed. As of this writing, official figures for the new combination haven't been released.

Also for 2014, it comes with a system that combines active differentials and torque vectoring, along with active torque biasing. What that all means is that the Evoque figures out exactly how much power can go to each wheel to help on-road stability.

– Wheelbase Media

LR2 — $41,500

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LR2: COMPACT SPORT UTILITY — $41,500
LR4: MID-SIZE SPORT UTILITY — $60,000 (2013)
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RANGE ROVER SPORT: FULL-SIZE SPORT UTILITY — $75,500

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HITTING ALL THE RIGHT NOTES

With one of the largest model lineups in the entire automotive world, where does Nissan go from there? It creates sub models.

For 2014, there's a carryover Versa sedan and the new Versa Note hatchback that replaces the Versa wagon. Whoa. The original Versa wagon — a 2007 model year arrival — was all about low price and fuel efficiency.

The new Note expands on that theme by actually shrinking in size. It's shorter in overall length by more than 15 centimetres (it's 32 centimetres shorter than the sedan) without reducing the distance between the front and rear wheels or the interior volume, which has actually increased slightly. Curtailing the size contributes to a new car that's 135 kilograms lighter than the retired wagon. Virtually all of the shrinkage occurs ahead of the front wheels where the aerodynamic nose slopes downward in a way that's reminiscent of the Honda Fit.

Both the Versa sedan and Versa Note wagon lead their respective entry-level categories in cabin space, but the Note's clever interior packaging gives it a clear advantage. Open the hatch and the load-floor height is three centimetres lower than its 2012 predecessor (there was no 2013 wagon). An optional adjustable-height load floor called "Hide-N-Divide" can be raised to match the height of the rear seats when they are folded flat, all the while creating a hidden storage spot below.

The Note's 109-horsepower, 1.6-litre engine comes through with an estimated 6.1 l/100 km in the city and 4.8 on the highway. That's with the optional continuously variable transmission. For comparison, the Note's standard five-speed manual transmission earns a 7.4/5.4 rating.

Helping out fuel economy are grille shutters that automatically close at highway speeds and reduce aerodynamic drag by keeping air out of the engine compartment, thereby reducing the parachute effect.

For something that's a little bigger but is still good on gas, buyers can go with the new Rogue. For its encore performance, the second-gen version makes significant strides in interior and exterior styling. There's even an available third-row seat.

The standard powerplant for the new Rogue continues to be a 170-horsepower, 2.5-litre four-cylinder. It's matched to an improved continuously variable transmission with a sport mode for snappier performance. Nissan has focused on reducing friction (by a claimed 40 per cent) and improving the transmission's belt-and-pulley system for better operating efficiency. That seems to have paid off since the new Rogue's consumption estimate of 8.8 l/100 km in the city and 6.8 on the highway beats the previous 9.0/7.0 rating. All models — S, SV, and SL — continue to be available with all-wheel-drive.

– Wheelbase Media

VERSA NOTE — $14,700

GT-R — $108,200

370Z — $40,500 (COUPE)

MURANO — $35,800

CUBE — $17,100

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ROGUE — $25,500

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MAXIMA: MID-SIZED SEDAN — $39,500
MURANO: MID-SIZED SUV — $35,800
PATHFINDER: FULL-SIZE TALL WAGON — $31,300
QUEST: MINIVAN — $31,300
ROGUE: COMPACT WAGON — $25,500
SENTRA: COMPACT SEDAN — $16,200
TITAN: FULL-SIZE PICKUP — $35,300
VERSA: COMPACT SEDAN — $13,100
VERSA NOTE: COMPACT HATCHBACK — $14,700
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Leafs Star struck as win streak ends in Texas

Stars forward Ryan Garbutt celebrates a goal by teammate Cody Eakin as Toronto Maple Leafs Jake Gardiner, Jonathan Bernier and Morgan Rielly react on Thursday night in Dallas.
The Leafs' six-game winning streak, their longest winning streak in eight years, came to a crashing halt as they were thoroughly dismantled by the Stars 7-1. Bernier was pulled after giving up three goals on 13 shots. James Reimer didn't fare any better, giving up the final four goals on 15 shots.

TONY GUTIERREZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

No safety blanket necessary for Sochi

Opening ceremony. Wickenheiser embraces chance to lead Canadian athletes into Olympics

Hayley Wickenheiser doesn't put much stock in the flag-bearer's curse.

The hockey star, who will carry the Maple Leaf into the opening ceremonies of the Sochi Olympics, says the idea that she and her teammates could be under any more pressure is absurd.

After all, they play a sport that many in Canada consider religion. So any sort of cosmic jinx pales in comparison to the weight of an entire country's expectations for the women's team to win a fourth straight gold medal in Sochi.

"I think there's just too much emphasis put on that," Wickenheiser said Thursday via conference call from Austria. "The country expects a gold medal. Whether I carry the flag or not, I'm pretty sure our team doesn't feel any extra added incentive that there's more pressure to perform, because we already feel that already."

Not all athletes see it that way. Diver Alexandre Despatie felt it would be a distraction and said he'd decline any offer to carry the flag at the 2012 London Games.

Kayaker Adam van Koeverden carried the flag at the 2008 Beijing Olympics and finished a disappointing eighth in the 1,000 metres — although he did win silver in the 500.

Hayley Wickenheiser in St. Pölten, Austria, on Thursday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Moguls skier Jean-Luc Brassard blamed his disappointing performance at the 1998 Nagano Olympics on being the flag-bearer a day earlier.

Hockey Canada says the women will march in the Feb. 7 opening ceremonies despite playing their first game the following night versus Switzerland.

Wickenheiser is embracing the opportunity to put her sport centre stage.

"What I think it does is it shines a very positive light on the sport of women's hockey and just on our sport in general for the world to see," said the 35-year-old forward. "That's a great responsibility and expectation that every nation in the world has to carry in and I think should really embrace."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA

Bosh helps Heat handle Lakers

Chris Bosh scored 31 points, LeBron James added 27 points and 13 rebounds and the Miami Heat never trailed in a 109-102 victory over the Los Angeles Lakers on Thursday night.

It was the Heat's eighth win over the Lakers in their last nine meetings. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

New faces dot list of all-star starters

Stephen Curry, Kevin Love, Paul George and Kyrie Irving were voted NBA all-stars Thursday, putting four first-time starters in the Feb. 16 game in New Orleans.

Kobe Bryant was elected by fans to his 16th all-star game, second-most in NBA history, but this one is shaping up as a kids' game.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World Cup bid?

Soccer Canada decides if you can't beat 'em, host 'em

Canada plans to bid to host the 2026 World Cup.

"We're the only G8 nation to not host the World Cup," Canadian Soccer Association president Victor Montagliani said on Thursday. "We've hosted almost every other event.... I think it's time for Canada to step up to the plate."

Canada has hosted FIFA youth tournaments and will stage next year's Women's World Cup.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Genie Bouchard's pops proud of prodigy's play at Australian Open

Tennis. 19-year-old expected to move into WTA top 20 as she returns to Montreal for Federation Cup match

Canadian Eugenie Bouchard listens to a reporter's question after losing to Li Na. SHUJI KAJIYAMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

It was an intense week at the Bouchard household as daughter Eugenie worked her way to the Australian Open semifinals.

"We were yelling like idiots," Mike Bouchard, the player's father, said Thursday of his daughter's stirring win over Ana Ivanovic in the quarter-finals, which made her the first Canadian to reach the semifinals of a Grand Slam tournament since Carling Bassett-Seguso in 1984.

It wasn't quite as frenzied at their Westmount, Que., home two nights later, when Bouchard bowed out with a 6-2, 6-4 loss to fourth-seeded Li Na of China in the semis.

"It was also exciting, but in the first set Li Na came out strong and Genie was a little nervous," he said. "I felt for her, but she came back well in the second set. Overall, it was an excellent tournament."

Bouchard stole the show in Melbourne, where a dozen or so local fans formed Genie's Army to cheer her on and toss her stuffed Australian animals after her wins.

Several commentators spoke of Bouchard, the 2012 Wimbledon junior girls champion, being the next big thing in women's tennis and a potential future Grand Slam tournament winner.

Already, her results are expected to move her from 31st into the top 20 in next week's rankings.

And it has stirred ticket sales for her next appearance on home turf. She will play for Canada against Serbia Feb. 8-9 in a Federation Cup tie at the Claude Robillard Centre in Montreal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
There is no point being angry about what you have to leave behind. The planets are pointing you in a new direction and urging you to take that first brave step into the unknown.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Why are you so excitable? Whatever the reason, you will be on the go from dawn to dusk today. You may need to rest and get your energy back tomorrow but for now you are a ball of energy.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You don't have to be especially dynamic today. In fact, if you wait for good things to come your way, they will. Also, your way with words will get what you desire in most situations.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Someone will come to you for advice and although you don't want to get involved, you know you can't turn them down. Make sure they know it is only advice. The ultimate responsibility rests with them.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Honesty is essential if you are to resolve an issue that has been dragging on. That does not only mean you being honest with others, it also means others being honest with you. Encourage them to speak up.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You tend to believe in only what you can see and touch. Something will happen today that makes you wonder if there are other forces at work. Can you make them work for you?

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
No matter how many brilliant ideas you have, they don't mean a thing unless you do something with them. For too long you've come up with grand plans, now it's time to act.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
There is a reason for everything that happens in life — ultimately there is no such thing as luck. Keep that thought in mind today and it will help you keep your feet on the ground.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Don't take it personally if a friend is overly critical. They are probably more annoyed with themselves than they are with you, but their ego won't let them admit it. They'll make it up to you tomorrow.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You may be desperate to be doing something more exciting but don't get so desperate that you act without thinking. If you do, and make a mistake, it will most likely hit you where it hurts most — in your wallet.

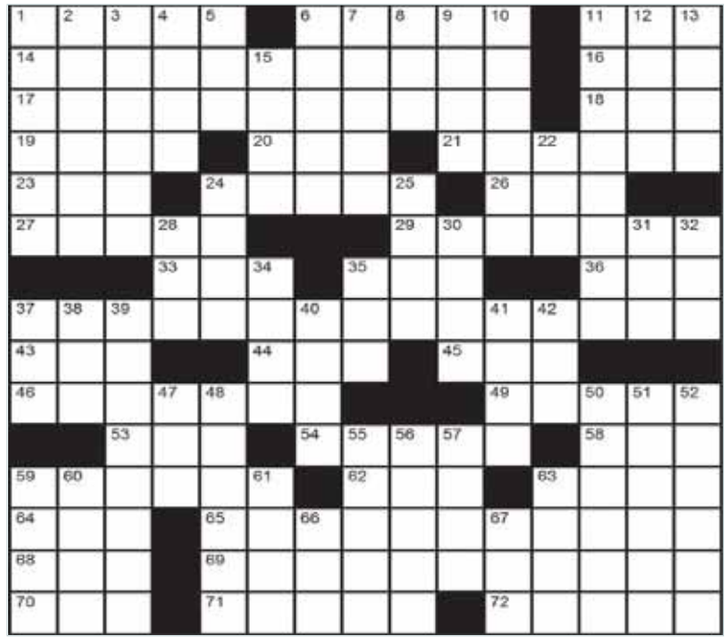
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
In the eyes of the world, you can do no wrong, so don't worry if you tread on others' toes. Most likely they'll say sorry to you! In every way you are moving faster than everyone.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You need to rediscover your passion for a project that started off well but tailed away as other things demanded your time. It doesn't have to be a fantasy that remains unfulfilled. There is still time to make it a success. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

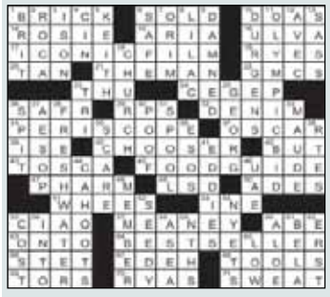
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Savoury gelatin
6. Motor scooter company
11. Book serial abbr.
14. 'Whale Music' Canadian band
16. Nightfall
17. MMA = Mixed __ __
18. Soak flax
19. City in Quebec
20. Atlantic Can. locale
21. Misters, in Madrid
23. "__, _ insist!"
24. Kiss of the Dragon (2001) star: 2 wds.
26. CBC's The __ James Show
27. "__ __ tired." ...said the exhausted person
29. Big bird
33. Web feed syst. for updates
35. Testing, testing One, __, three...
36. Dove's murmur
37. Canadian History: It was legalized on July 20, 2005: 2 wds.
43. Year: Spanish
44. Tellies
45. Nightfall in verse
46. Potato dumpling
49. Rover
53. Cdn. currency
54. My Own Private __ (1991)
58. Country music's __ Young Band
59. Fates
62. Numero __
63. Ms. Ward
64. Canadian broadcaster Mr. Lewis
65. Louis __ (British naval officer, Prince Charles' great uncle, b.1900 - d.1979)
68. Mr. Chaney Jr.
69. City near Toronto
70. Chang Bunker's equally famous twin
71. Literature's W.B.
72. Really promotes

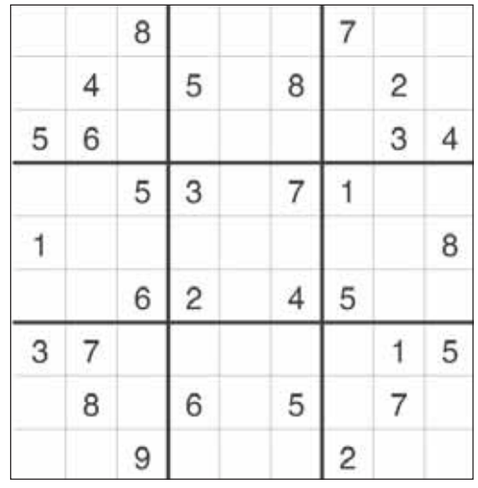
Down
1. Giorgio of fashion design
2. Canadian model/actress Ms. Harlow
3. Licence
4. Scintilla
5. _ _ _: Crime Scene Investigation
6. Parking attendant
7. Internet commerce, _-__
8. __ John A. Macdonald
9. Agent takes, for short
10. Declare to be true
11. Archie Comics character
12. Throughout
13. Net balls
15. Scotch stuff
22. Oslo's li'l locale
24. Ms. Stone of song
25. Cedar Rapids locale
28. Metal-bearing mineral
30. Hurting
31. Wheel part
32. Shed tool
34. Comedy's Mr. Meyers
35. Band-Aid, et al.
37. Decline
38. Journalist Ms. Curry
39. Fad jewellery piece in the 1970s: 2 wds.
40. Nero's 17
41. Casino city
42. Greek Myth: Odysseus' rescuer
47. Ending after . on the Internet
48. Dank
50. Join for company: 2 wds.
51. Make a claim about a crime
52. Singer Ms. Ross, and namesakes
55. Actress Kirsten
56. Pros opposites
57. Goblins
59. Leafy green
60. Shakespeare's river
61. French fabric?
63. Stick around
66. G8 country
67. Mountain __ (Type of tree)

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



Yesterday's Sudoku

4	3	8	7	2	6	1	9	5
5	9	6	1	4	8	2	7	3
2	7	1	9	5	3	8	6	4
7	5	3	8	9	4	6	2	1
9	1	4	6	7	2	3	5	8
6	8	2	5	3	1	7	4	9
1	4	9	3	6	7	5	8	2
3	6	5	2	8	9	4	1	7
8	2	7	4	1	5	9	3	6

Weather

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
MAX: 10° MIN: 6°	MAX: 9° MIN: 2°	MAX: 0° MIN: -11°

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WEEKDAYS 5:30 AM

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"What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked him. The blind man said, "Rabbi, I want to see." "Go," said Jesus, "your faith has healed you." Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road." (Mark 10:51-52 NIV). If the blind man had listened to people around him his miracle could have been a mirage. Hold on to your faith, ignore distractions and look up to Jesus.

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